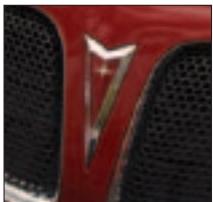


Falling star

End of road for pop culture icon Pontiac



Navy cancels ship deployment to South Pacific due to swine flu

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Brett back?

QB Favre will reportedly meet with Vikings **Page 25**

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LEE JIN-MAN/AP

S. Korea attempting to repair its international reputation through brand development **Page 8**

A tourist shops near a collection of masks in Seoul last month. South Korea is taking part in an international ranking system to compete against other nations on first impressions of outsiders. According to one recent Nation Brands Index, South Korea ranked 33rd out of 50 nations.



Сергей Никонов/АР

President Barack Obama, flanked by Afghan President Hamid Karzai and Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari, speaks Wednesday at the White House in Washington.

Karzai lauds U.S. strategy

Afghan, Pakistani leaders stress aid at Washington summit

BY KEVIN BARON
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — A trilateral summit with leaders of Afghanistan and Pakistan began here Tuesday with a decidedly nonmilitary theme. But behind the scenes, Pentagon officials, led by Gen. David Petraeus, CENTCOM commander, are engaged in lengthy talks with the national security delegations of

both countries.

Afghan President Hamid Karzai, Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari and U.S. leaders publicly stressed that the region's future stability and security relied on continued humanitarian aid and development dollars from the United States.

From their remarks, one might forget there are tens of thousands of U.S. troops fighting a war in the region.

With the top two U.S. military leaders out of the country — Defense Secretary Robert Gates is traveling through the Middle East and Afghanistan while Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, is in Europe — the Obama administration has designed the summit to draw attention to its diplomatic development and aid ef-

diplomatic, development efforts for the region.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"It's probably the hottest way sex is being sold. No longer do they have to stand on the street and wave at cars as they come by."

—Sheriff Leon Lott, of Richland County, S.C., talking about ads for erotic services on Craigslist

See story on Page 6

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2. Remains of missing soldier positively identified
3. Navy: Surveillance ship called on Chinese to shake off fishing boats
4. A real crowd pleaser: 275,000 visitors set record at Iwakuni Friendship Day
5. NATO to scale back exercise in Georgia after failed mutiny

COMING TOMORROW

Faith

Study shows American faith in flux

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Gates in Kabul to see for himself

BY LARA JAKES
The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates is getting a close-up look in Afghanistan at what U.S. troops need as they try to stop extremists from crossing into the country from Pakistan.

Gates already was in Kabul and ready for a series of meetings as Afghan President Hamid Karzai prepared for talks in Washington at the White House with President Barack Obama.

Gates' trip was his first visit to Afghanistan as a member of the Obama administration and

it comes as the U.S. prepares to send thousands more military forces to the country.

"We have a new policy, a new strategy, a new ambassador, and we have a lot of new troops going into the area, and I just want to go out and see for myself how they're doing," he told reporters in Saudi Arabia shortly before flying to Afghanistan.



Gates

He added, "I just want to keep the focus on what I've been talking about for months, and that is: What do we need to do to get the equipment and the support to the troops in the field so they can be successful and come home safely?"

Gates planned to meet with Gen. David McKiernan, the commander of U.S. forces in Afghanistan.

He also said he wants to look at the military's eyes-in-the-sky reconnaissance mission since ordering more drones to the country over the next several years. Most of the military's drones are believed to fly over the Afghanistan-Pakistan border, and Gates said

he wanted to see if any gaps in the mission needed to be filled.

"We put a lot of new stuff in there, and there's more to come," he said. "I just want to make sure they're ready for it and that they'll be able to absorb it and use it in an effective way."

Gates is also interested in a helicopter medevac program in Afghanistan, which until recently had been unable to reliably pick up and treat wounded people within the "golden hour" that often makes the difference between life and death. He said he wants to see if additional helicopters and medical troops he ordered there recently are enough.

Summit: Karzai says relations with U.S. 'very, very strong'

SUMMIT, FROM PAGE 1

But on Tuesday, Petraeus met with Karzai and several Afghan ministers and security officials, including the intelligence director and national security adviser, according to a senior military official.

They discussed the security situation in the region, ways to ensure fair elections and ongoing training of Afghan security forces. The general also met separately with Afghan Interior Minister Mohammad Hanif Atmar and National Director of Security Chief Amrullah Saleh.

Petraeus was expected to meet with Zardari's delegation Wednesday or Thursday, and spoke with Gen. Ashfaq Kiyani, chief of staff of Pakistan's army on Sunday.

Karzai, Zardari and their delegations are scheduled for three days of marathon sessions at the State Department and Congress. The presidents met jointly and separately with President Barack Obama at the White House on Wednesday, while Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton hosted the delegations at the State Department. And Obama's special envoy to the region, Ambassador Richard A. Holbrooke, went before Congress on Tuesday.

There are no events scheduled at the Pentagon, but Michele A. Flournoy, undersecretary of defense for policy, was expected to join the summit.

Karzai on Tuesday called the announcement of a "civilian surge" of development, humanitarian and civil society workers in the region "the most important element" of Obama's new strategy.

Speaking at the Brookings Institute, a centrist think tank, Karzai put himself between hard line Islamists threatening to disrupt the government of both states and Western powers seeking to flood the countries with aid.

"Money can't buy you love, as you say it in America, no matter how much it is. And force won't buy you obedience, no matter how much it is," he said.

Karzai called the Obama strategy "a good change in the right direction, but it must be very carefully applied." He said Pakistani officials expressed worry to him about U.S. troop increases, and that the U.S. must provide better protection and security for Afghan civilians to win their confidence.

Karzai arrived in the U.S. amid a media blizzard of criticism of his government, his choice of vice presidential candidates and characterizations from anonymous administration sources portraying his standing as weak.

But the Afghan president insisted his footing with the U.S. was solid.

"We've had ups and downs, especially in the past year and a half, in our relations with America. There were difficult moments over civilian casualties between us. There were tense moments over the issues of ... corruption and all that," said Karzai.

But with Bruce Riedel, an architect of the Obama administration's strategy for Afghanistan and Pakistan, at his side, Karzai said, "The fundamentals of this relationship are very, very strong."

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KEVIN WOLF/AP

Afghan President Hamid Karzai talks with Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton before a Wednesday meeting at the State Department in Washington.

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AAFES pulls Hydroxycut after FDA warning

Supplement may be to blame for liver injuries

Stars and Stripes

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service pulled the popular dietary supplement Hydroxycut from its shelves last weekend after government health officials urged dieters and bodybuilders to immediately stop using the product.

In a warning Friday, the Food and Drug Administration said it had received 23 reports of serious health problems, ranging from jaundice to elevated liver enzymes, an indicator of potential liver injury.

One person had died of liver failure as a result of using the product, the FDA warning stated.

AAFES sold about \$7 million in Hydroxycut products — with names such as Facelift Hydroxycut, Hydroxycut Liquid Shots and Hydroxycut Hardcore — last year worldwide, according to AAFES spokesman Judd Anstey.

Anstey noted that yanking the popular dietary supplement was an AAFES decision and not mandated by the FDA.

Customers may return any unused or partially used Hydroxycut product to AAFES or one of its

General Nutrition Center stores for a full refund, he said.

The FDA said the company that makes the supplement has agreed to recall 14 Hydroxycut products, which are also available in grocery stores and state-side pharmacies, The Associated Press reported.

Iovate Health Sciences, which makes the diet pills, said in a statement that the 2007 death, which was reported by the FDA in March, was not caused by Hydroxycut, according to the AP. The statement gave no details.

"The number of adverse event reports described by the FDA in its advisory is small relative to the many millions of people who have used Hydroxycut products over the past seven years," the company statement said. "Iovate's own assessment of the potential risk associated with the use of these products differs from that expressed by the FDA."

Other health problems reported from using the supplement include seizures, cardiovascular disorders and rhabdomyolysis, a type of muscle damage that can lead to other serious health problems such as kidney failure, the FDA warning stated.



Stars and Stripes

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service pulled Hydroxycut from its shelves last weekend after health officials urged dieters and bodybuilders to immediately stop using the product.

Full-steam ahead



CYNTHIA GRIGGS/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Seaman Raymond Lovelace, assigned to the amphibious command ship USS Blue Ridge, steers the course at full steam as the ship returns home to Yokosuka, Japan, after participating in the Malabar 2009 exercise. The ship is part of Expeditionary Strike Group 7/Task Force 76, the Navy's only forward-deployed amphibious force. Malabar is an annual Indian-led exercise involving naval forces of the U.S. and India and this year included elements of the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force.

Check insurance settlement eligibility online

BY NATASHA LEE

Stars and Stripes

The National Association of Insurance Commissioners has launched a new Web tool to help identify more than 14,000 servicemembers eligible for \$2.3 million in compensation from a settlement stemming from deceptive sales practices with American-Amicable Life Insurance Co., the commission said in a news release.

Servicemembers who bought "Horizon Life" policies between Jan. 1, 2000, and July 28, 2006, are urged to check their eligibility status online at <https://eapps.naic.org/restitution>, NAIC spokeswoman Vanessa Sink said in an e-mail response to Stripes.

In 2006, the Texas-based in-

To check your eligibility status, go to <https://eapps.naic.org/restitution>

surance company agreed to pay \$70 million in cash refunds and increased policy benefits to about 92,000 servicemembers and civilians following a 20-month state and federal investigation, according to Sink.

The investigation found the company, and its two affiliates Pioneer American Insurance Co. and Pioneer Security Life Insurance Co., used misleading practices to sell costly policies in Georgia and Texas that young servicemembers might not have understood or needed.

The NAIC assists state insurance regulators in consumer

protection and monitoring the insurance industry.

Mike Geeslin, commissioner of the Texas Department of Insurance, was unavailable for an interview due to his schedule but confirmed NAIC's information in an e-mail to Stripes.

Servicemembers on the online list of those eligible for possible compensation can call or e-mail American-Amicable to file their claim, Geeslin said. The company can be reached at 1-800-736-7311 or at poscomplaint@americanamicable.com, according to NAIC's Web site.

For more information or questions regarding the settlement, visit www.naic.org/committees_ex_military.htm.

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New cyber command would face challenges

BY LOLITA C. BALDOR

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. military is developing plans for a new cyber command at an Army facility north of Washington to coordinate digital warfare, but difficult challenges lie ahead as federal agencies try to work with industry to protect critical computer networks nationwide, military officials said Tuesday.

Lt. Gen. Keith Alexander, director of the National Security Agency, said the United States is determined to lead the global effort to use computer technology to deter or defeat enemies, while protecting the public's constitutional rights.

Alexander acknowledged that even as the military secures its networks, it is more likely that any major cyber attack would target industry such as the electrical grid rather than the Pentagon. Responding to such an attack, he said, would require broad coordination between the public and private sectors.

Speaking to the House Armed Services terrorism subcommittee, Alexander and other military leaders in cyber matters said the military is struggling to keep up

with rapidly changing technologies and to meet the services' needs for more resources and training. In blunt comments, Alexander acknowledged that cyber training for the Pentagon's work force is inadequate and must be improved.

Lt. Gen. William Shelton, the Air Force's chief of warfighting integration, said the Pentagon relies heavily on industry efforts to respond to cyber threats. That approach, he said, does not keep pace with the threat.

The Obama administration is preparing to release its review of the nation's cybersecurity, shortly after a critical report about it by the National Research Council.

The independent group's report concluded that government policies on how and when to wage cyber warfare are ill-formed, lack adequate oversight and require a broad public debate.

Alexander, the Pentagon's leading cyber warfare commander, said the White House review will help establish guidelines for how the federal government, including its military and intelligence agencies, will share information on cyber threats with industry, ranging from banks to utilities.

Gates nominates new 13th Air Force commander

Air Force Maj. Gen. Herbert J. "Hawk" Carlisle has been nominated by Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates for promotion to lieutenant general and assignment to command the 13th Air Force, Pacific Air Forces, Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii.

Carlisle is currently director, legislative liaison, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force in Washington, D.C.

He graduated from the Air Force Academy in 1978 and has commanded a fighter squadron, an operations group and two wings.

He has more than 3,400 flying hours as a pilot and served as chief of Air Operations, U.S. Central Command Forward in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

From staff reports

Navy cancels ship deployment due to swine flu

By CHRISTINE SIMMONS
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Navy canceled the deployment of a San Diego-based ship and ordered its crew to be treated with anti-viral drugs after a crewmember's illness was confirmed as swine flu.

Navy spokesman Lt. Sean Robertson said Tuesday there also were about 50 suspected cases of the virus from crewmembers on board the USS Dubuque. He said the crewmember with the virus

and those suspected of being ill from it have completed treatment with the anti-viral drug Tamiflu and are recovering.

Robertson said the ship's deployment was canceled out of an "abundance of caution." The ship was scheduled to leave June 1 on a humanitarian mission to the South Pacific for assistance on projects such as medical and construction operations.

The Navy was exploring options to still meet its commitments, Robertson said.

As a precaution, the other 370 crewmembers who were not showing symptoms of the virus began taking preventive treatment at the beginning of the month. Those showing symptoms and the crewmember confirmed to be ill from the virus were recovering at home and in quarters provided by the Navy, he said.

The USS Dubuque, an amphibious transport dock ship, is now being cleaned and disinfected at the naval base in San Diego.



MARK A. LEONESIO/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Amphibious transport dock USS Dubuque passes under the Coronado Bay Bridge in May 2007. The Navy canceled the deployment of the San Diego-based ship after a crewmember's illness was confirmed as swine flu.



JEFF SCHOGOL/Stars and Stripes

Army Lt. Col. Christopher Lehner shows off a new lightweight shotgun being developed by Program Executive Office Soldier that could be issued in the first or second quarter of fiscal 2010.

Army tests lightweight gear

By JEFF SCHOGOL
Stars and Stripes

FORT BELVOIR, Va. — The Army will test lighter body armor next week with plans to field up to 100,000 sets beginning in August, said Lt. Col. Robert W. Myles Jr. of Program Executive Office Soldier.

The tests will take place May 11-22 in Yuma, Ariz., and will involve 10 soldiers from the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team and 25 soldiers with the 82nd Airborne Division, Myles said Wednesday.

Soldiers can carry a load of about 100 pounds of gear, body armor and ammunition. The Improved Outer Tactical Vests that soldiers currently wear weighs about 31 pounds with all four ballistic plates, Myles said.

The Army will evaluate four new types of body armor, each weighing about 24 pounds, as well as body armor already worn by soldiers, Marines and Special Operations Forces, he said.

The body armor will be evaluated based on ballistic tests, form, wear and comfort, and cost, Myles said.

As a stop-gap measure, the Army will soon issue a battalion of soldiers with the 4th Infantry Division the lightweight body armor that Special Operations Forces wear, he said.

"We want to lighten the load as quick as possible; that's our No. 1 goal," Myles said.

In January, Gen. Peter Chiarelli, Army vice chief of staff, told reporters that an increasing number of

soldiers were becoming nondeployable in part due to musculoskeletal injuries from the heavy loads they carry.

"You can't hump a rucksack at 8,000-11,000 feet for 15 months, even at a young age, and not have that have an impact on your body," Chiarelli said during a roundtable with reporters.

Another way the Army is trying to lighten a soldier's load is by building lighter machine guns, said Richard G. Audette of PEO Soldier.

A variant of the M-240 machine gun weighing seven pounds less than what soldiers have now is expected to go into mass production next summer, Audette said. It can't be mass-produced sooner because the weapon is made out of titanium, which has a long lead time.

The Army also is working on a lightweight shotgun that could be issued to soldiers in the first or second quarter of fiscal 2010, said Lt. Col. Christopher Lehner, also of PEO Soldier.

The M-26 holds five rounds in the magazine and one round in the chamber, and it is modular so it can be attached to an M-4 — meaning soldiers don't have to switch from their shotgun to their rifle after blasting a door down, Lehner said.

For now, soldiers can replace the butt stocks on their M-16s with more compact M-4 butt stocks, he said.

Starting in November, the Army will issue kits with the M-4 butt stocks and a more reliable buffer, which absorbs the recoil, Lehner said.

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2 killed when Marine helo crashes in Calif.

By CHRISTINE SIMMONS
The Associated Press

ALPINE, Calif. — A Marine Corps helicopter crashed in a remote area of Southern California, killing the only two people who were on board, authorities said Wednesday.

The Super Cobra helicopter from the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing crashed shortly before midnight Tuesday, according to a statement from Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, outside San Diego.

A Defense Department accident investigation team was on the scene in the Cleveland National Forest in eastern San Diego County, said Capt. Darryl Pina of the California Depart-

ment of Forestry.

The crash started a one- to two-acre fire, Pina said.

Authorities received emergency calls reporting a wildfire with explosions, and during the long drive to the remote scene fire commanders received a report from the air station that a helicopter with live ordnance was missing, Pina said.

When they arrived about 45 minutes later, fire crews waited for the fire to burn itself out before approaching the scene for fear of explosions, Pina said.

He said the crash was in an old fire break with very little vegetation in the forest north of a major highway.

North Korea critical of U.S. defense budget, vows to boost military spending

By CHRISTINE SIMMONS
The Associated Press

SEOUL — North Korea criticized the U.S. for seeking to increase its military spending, vowing Wednesday to bolster its own defense capabilities to cope with what it calls increasing American threats.

Early last month, U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates proposed a \$534 billion defense budget for 2010, which would be an increase over the \$513 billion for 2009. The proposal has been submitted to the U.S. Congress and awaits approval.

The North's main Rodong Sinmun newspaper said in a commentary that the proposed budget would intensify an international arms race and parts of the money would be spent to "militarily threaten and invade" the North.

It's essential for the North to "continue to strengthen its self-defense power to cope with increasing U.S. military threats," said the commentary, carried by the country's official Korean Central News Agency.

The North has long accused the U.S. of plotting to attack, though Washington has repeatedly said it has no such plan. The U.S. stations

28,500 troops in South Korea as a deterrence against the North.

Tension on the Korean peninsula have spiked since the North launched a rocket on April 5 in defiance of international warnings.

Pyongyang said it put a satellite into orbit as part of its peaceful space development program, but the U.S. and its allies have said that nothing made it into space and the blast was a cover to test the country's advanced missile technology.

The U.N. Security Council denounced the launch and imposed sanctions on North Korean companies, prompting Pyongyang to boycott six-nation disarmament talks on its nuclear programs and threaten to conduct nuclear and missile tests.

The State Department said Tuesday it would dispatch its top negotiator on North Korea to Asia this week for talks with countries involved in the stalled six-party nuclear talks.

Special U.S. envoy Stephen Borschow is to arrive in China on Thursday and then move on to South Korea, Japan and Russia, but has no plans to travel to North Korea, according to State Department spokesman Robert Wood.

Blast in Baghdad kills 15

Separate bomb kills 2, hurts 6

BY SAAD ABDUL-KADIR
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A car bomb exploded Wednesday at the entrance to a fruit and vegetable market in south Baghdad, killing 15 people and wounding about 40, police and hospital officials said, in the latest sign of rising attacks.

The blast, which occurred about 7 a.m. at the Rasheed market in the city's southern Dora area, follows a sharp increase in violence in Iraq last month, raising concern that militants have regrouped after suffering sharp setbacks in fighting over the last two years.

Hours later, another car bomb exploded in the capital's Karrada district, killing two people and wounding six, police said. The bomb apparently targeted a



LOAY HAMEED/AP

People inspect the damage on a car destroyed in a car bomb explosion Wednesday in Baghdad.

police patrol but missed.

Most of the recent bombings have taken place in Shiite areas, suggesting Sunni militants such as al-Qaida in Iraq are responsible. The Rasheed market is in a mainly Shiite area, but the farmers who bring their crops there are predominantly Shiites.

Some survivors of the Wednesday blast complained that security forces were too lax in searching

trucks used by farmers to bring produce to the market.

"The security personnel are not searching the farmers who bring their vegetables to the market," survivor Raad Hussein told Associated Press Television News. "They search only private cars."

Kamil Lahmoud, a Shiite farmer from Mahmudiya, said he had just sold his produce and was inside an office collecting his

money when the blast happened.

"I was injured slightly in my head and left hand," he said. "I went out and saw many people covered with blood and bodies scattered everywhere."

Police and hospital officials reported the casualty tolls but spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not supposed to release the information.

Missing U.S. soldier confirmed killed

The status of a soldier who had been listed as missing has been changed to killed in action, the Defense Department announced Tuesday night.

Army Staff Sgt. William D. Vile, 27, of Philadelphia, was killed Friday near the village of Nishagam in eastern Afghanistan when insurgents attacked Afghan and international forces with small-arms fire and rocket-propelled grenade strikes, officials said.

The Army initially listed Vile as "Duty Status Whereabouts Unknown," a designation used when the unit's commander believes a servicemember has been killed but cannot positively identify or locate the body, according to the Defense Department's directive on casualty notifications.

Vile was assigned to the 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division from Fort Riley, Kan.

From staff and wire reports

Red Cross: Dozens of Afghans killed in alleged U.S. airstrike

The Associated Press

KABUL — The international Red Cross confirmed Wednesday that civilians were found in graves and rubble where Afghan officials alleged U.S. bombs had killed dozens. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said Washington "deeply, deeply" regretted the loss of innocent life.

Women and children were among dozens of bodies in two villages targeted by airstrikes, the International Committee of the Red Cross reported Wednesday after sending a team to the district. The U.S. military sent a brigadier general to the region to investigate.

A former Afghan government official said up to 120 people died in the bombing Monday evening.

Opening a meeting with the presidents of Afghanistan and Pakistan at the State Department in Washington, Clinton said Wednesday that any loss of innocent life was "particularly painful."

Afghan President Hamid Karzai will raise the issue of civilian deaths with President Barack

Obama, a statement from Karzai's office said.

The first images from the bombings in Farah province emerged Wednesday. Photos from the site obtained by The Associated Press showed villagers burying the dead in about a dozen fresh graves while others dug through the rubble.

The international Red Cross team in Farah's Bala Baluk district on Tuesday saw "dozens of bodies in each of the two locations that we went to," spokeswoman Jessica Barry said.

Civilian deaths have caused increasing friction between the Afghan and U.S. governments, and Karzai has long pleaded with American officials to reduce civilian casualties in their operations. U.S. and NATO officials accuse the Taliban militants of fighting from within civilian homes, thus putting them in danger.

Villagers brought about 30 bodies, including women and children, to Farah city to show the governor Tuesday, said Abdul Basir Khan, a member of the provincial council.

Pakistan pounds Taliban; fighters flood to Swat

The Associated Press

MINGORA, Pakistan — Helicopter gunships and mortar teams pounded militant strongholds Wednesday, killing dozens outside emerald mines, the military said, as Taliban reinforcements poured down from their mountain hide-outs and seized homes and government buildings.

The army began taking the

fight to militants entrenched in both the Swat Valley and in Buner, just 60 miles from the capital, as Pakistan's leader prepared to hear demands from President Barack Obama for forceful action from a struggling ally.

The latest actions will please Washington, which is urging Pakistan to crack down on militants blamed for rising violence at home and in Afghanistan.

Since fighting broke out Tues-

day, thousands of men, women and children have fled Swat's main town of Mingora and surrounding districts, fearing an imminent major military operation. The government said it believes refugees could reach 500,000.

"It is an all-out war there. Rockets are landing everywhere," said Laiq Zada, a 33-year-old who fled the valley late Tuesday.

The clashes followed the collapse of a 3-month-old truce in

Swat that was widely criticized in the West as a surrender to the militants, who had fought the army to a standstill in two years of clashes that saw hundreds of civilian casualties.

The military said Wednesday's offensive killed about 35 militants positioned near emerald mines in the Swat Valley and 27 in neighboring Buner, where troops have halted a Taliban push toward the capital Islamabad.

Number of detainees in Iraq back to 2005 levels

BY JOSEPH GIORDONO
Stars and Stripes

With a transfer and release program gaining steam, the number of detainees in U.S. custody in Iraq has fallen to its lowest point since November 2005, officials said this week.

According to officials with Task Force 134 — the command responsible for detainee operations in Iraq — there are now 11,999 detainees being held by U.S. forces throughout the country. At one time during the "surge" of U.S. forces, that number was as high as 26,000.

Under a provision of the security agreement signed between Iraq and the United States, all detainees are to be released or transferred to Iraqi control.

The goal, according to Task Force 134, is ending the coalition detainee operations mission in Iraq.

Under an agreement reached by a committee of Iraqi and American officials, the U.S. military has pledged to release or transfer 1,500 detainees each month — an average of 50 per day — until their facilities are empty.

The vast majority of detainees are held at Camp Cropper in Baghdad and Camp Bucca in southern Iraq.

Since January, some 3,271 detainees have been released, officials said this week.

Another 2,325 have either been convicted or are under trial in Iraqi courts.

Of the 4,500 "low threat" detainees considered for release so far under the agreement, around 400 have been ordered held by Iraqi officials because they are still considered security threats, officials said.

Iraqi authorities review detainees' case files before a determination is made on their status. The Iraqis can ask for custody of the detainee, or the person can be released outright.

In recent years, the U.S. detention system in Iraq has undergone several makeovers to change the image created by the Abu Ghraib detainee abuse scandal. Officials have stressed vocational and religious programs aimed at reducing recidivism.

They have also touted the increased pace of releases and transfers to Iraqi authorities.

Task Force 134 officials have also sought to reassure troops in the field that targets they detain will not be released without going through a review. Troops now have stringent requirements on gathering evidence against detainees, and U.S. officials have estimated that there are around 5,000 "hard-core" detainees they would not want to see released by the Iraqis.

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IN THE STATES

Report recommends no terror memo charges

WASHINGTON — Justice Department investigators say Bush administration lawyers who approved harsh interrogation techniques for terror suspects should not face criminal charges, according to a draft report that also recommends two of the three attorneys face possible professional sanctions.

The Obama administration decided last month to make public legal memos authorizing the use of harsh interrogation methods but not to prosecute CIA interrogators who followed the advice outlined in the memos.

Officials conducting the internal Justice Department inquiry into the lawyers who wrote those memos have recommended referring two of the three lawyers — John Yoo and Jay Bybee — to state bar associations for possible disciplinary action, according to a person familiar with the inquiry.

The person, who spoke on condition of anonymity, was not authorized to discuss the inquiry.

Chrysler's steps toward sale to Fiat approved

NEW YORK — The judge overseeing Chrysler LLC's Chapter 11 proceedings has ruled that the automaker can start taking steps toward selling the vast majority of its assets to Italy's Fiat Group SpA.

The judge also said lawyers for a dissident group of lenders have until noon Wednesday to file a list of members with the court, ruling that their identities do not need to be sealed despite reported death threats.

Bids for all or part of Chrysler's assets must be submitted by May 20, and a determination of the lead bid made by May 26. A final sale hearing would be held on May 27 and the sale could close in as little as 30 days after that.

NBA great Dave Bing Detroit's new mayor

DETROIT — Businessman and professional basketball Hall-of-Famer Dave Bing has been elected Detroit's new mayor and will serve through the end of 2009.

The Detroit Pistons great defeated incumbent and fellow Democrat Ken Cockrel Jr. on Tuesday in a special runoff election, 52.3 percent to 47.7 percent.

Bing, 65, will serve out the remainder of Kwame Kilpatrick's second term, but must run again in the regular Aug. 4 nonpartisan primary and win the Nov. 3 general election to hold onto the mayor's seat for a full four years.

1,200 homes ordered evacuated amid wildfire

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. — Authorities in Southern California have ordered about 1,200 homes evacuated because of a wind-driven wildfire burning in Santa Barbara County.

Fire Capt. David Sadecki said the blaze, which erupted Tuesday afternoon, is burning less than a square mile along the foothills above Santa Barbara. He said winds are pushing the fire toward homes.

From The Associated Press

Michelle Obama honored by Time

By JOCELYN NOVEC
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — She's already conquered Britain, France and Germany. On Tuesday, it was time for Michelle Obama to conquer New York.

After a visit to the U.S. Mission to the United Nations and an appearance on "Sesame Street," Obama capped her first visit to New York as first lady with an appearance before a glittery crowd at Time magazine's annual Time 100 gala, honoring its 100 "Most Influential People."

There, she mixed sparkle with substance, introducing the administration's proposal to give \$50 million to innovative nonprofit groups.

Yes, her husband was on that most-influential list, too, as well as 98 other movers and shakers in the worlds of politics, technology, business, fashion, science, television, film and music.

But it was clearly Obama, dressed in a long black gown with a corset bodice and jet beads around her neck, whom the crowd wanted to see.

And it was a powerful crowd that stood to applaud her entrance, including honorees Oprah Winfrey, Barbara Walters and her cohorts from "The View," financial analyst Suze Orman, fashion designer Stella McCartney and the guys who invented Twitter.

In her speech, Obama spoke



EVAN AGOSTINI/AP

First lady Michelle Obama gives opening remarks at the Time 100 Gala, a celebration of Time magazine's 100 "Most Influential People" in New York on Tuesday.

of the importance of public service in her own life and then announced that the president's budget proposal for next year will include \$50 million to help promote national service and advise nonprofit groups.

The money would be startup capital for the new Social Innovation Fund, she said, designed to help nonprofits think about service in new ways and approved by Congress as part of a national service law.

"The idea is simple: Find the most effective programs out there and then provide the capital needed to replicate their success in communities around the country," she said.

"By focusing on high-impact, results-oriented nonprofits, we will ensure that government dollars are spent in a way that is effective, accountable and worthy of the public trust."

Earlier Tuesday, Obama addressed diplomats and staff members at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations, thanking them for

promoting her husband's new foreign policy of global engagement.

As the swine flu outbreak demonstrates, she said, "we know now that we cannot wall ourselves off from issues that are challenging our neighbors."

"This new policy recognizes that America's future is intricately linked to the rest of the world, that the threats facing the global community know no borders, and no single country can tackle them alone," Obama said.

It sounded, though, like the highlight of her day — and to take her at her word, perhaps even her life as first lady so far — was the appearance with Elmo and Big Bird.

"I never thought I'd be on 'Sesame Street' with Elmo and Big Bird and I was thrilled," she told the crowd at the mission. "I'm still thrilled. I'm on a high."

"I think it's probably the best thing I've done so far in the White House."

\$63 billion sought to fight global diseases

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration wants the United States to spend \$63 billion over the next six years to fight global diseases and provide more aid for prenatal and postnatal care, children's health and fighting tropical diseases.

"We cannot fix every problem," President Barack Obama said in a statement Tuesday.

"But we have a responsibility to protect the health of our people, while saving lives, reducing suffering, and supporting the health and dignity of people everywhere. America can make a significant difference in meeting these challenges and that is why my administration is committed to act."

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said the plan is part of a foreign policy that leaves the U.S. in a more secure and stable relationship with poor countries by improving America's image.

"Our investments in programs to combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, TB and other preventable diseases save millions of lives, reduce maternal and child mortality, and reflect our nation's leadership as a positive force for progress around the world," Clinton said.

The initiative, announced by Deputy Secretary of State Jack Lew at the White House, continues an effort begun under President George W. Bush to fight HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, known in part as the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief or PEPFAR.

Lew called it "an extraordinary step to save the lives of men, women and children" and said it links U.S. national security policy with carrying out a moral obligation to help the world's poorest and most threatened populations.

S.C. threatens Craigslist CEO over online sex ads

By RICK BRUNDETT
McClatchy Newspapers

COLUMBIA, S.C. — South Carolina's top prosecutor threatened Tuesday to file criminal charges against Craigslist's chief executive, contending the popular Internet classified ad service company hasn't done enough to stop solicitation for prostitution and obscenity on its Web site.

South Carolina Attorney General Henry McMaster told The State newspaper that to his knowledge, South Carolina is the first state to explore criminal charges against CEO Jim Buckmaster and other top officers of the San Francisco-based company.

"They've allowed prostitution to go on there and allowed ob-

scenity to go on there," McMaster said. "It's a blatant violation of South Carolina law."

McMaster said prostitutes in South Carolina routinely advertise in the erotic services section of the Web site, and obscene pictures often are posted.

Over a two-year period, police in Richland County have made 121 prostitution-related arrests from Craigslist ads, according to department figures provided Tuesday to The State.

"It's probably the hottest way sex is being sold," Sheriff Leon Lott said. "No longer do they have to stand on the street and wave at cars as they come by. They just use technology."

Wesleyan student shot, killed

The Associated Press

MIDDLETOWN, Conn. — Connecticut police have identified the victim of a shooting at a Wesleyan University bookstore as a student from Colorado.

Police say Johanna Justin-Jinrish of Timith, Colo., was shot several times Wednesday afternoon by a disguised gunman at the bookstore in downtown Middletown.

Police released a photo of the suspect but would not confirm newspaper and TV reports that he is Justin-Jinrish's ex-boyfriend.

Middletown police Lt. Margaret Liseo is urging residents and Wesleyan students to be vigilant and said the suspect should be considered armed and dangerous.

Justin-Jinrish was on track to graduate next year.

A gun was recovered at the scene, the university said in a statement.

Middletown Mayor Sebastian Giuliano said he did not believe the public was in danger.

"It was focused. This wasn't random from what I can tell," Giuliano said. "Somebody went into a bookstore and fired multiple shots at one person."

All campus events scheduled for Wednesday, including its popular Spring Fling concerts, were canceled.

Officials at nearby St. Mary's School, a Roman Catholic school with 240 students, ordered a lockdown for about 30 minutes Wednesday afternoon, Principal Kathleen Dutil said. Police arrived and children were dismissed once authorities gave the go-ahead, she said.

Face transplant recipient steps forward

By MARILYNN MARCHIONE
The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — When Connie Culp heard a little kid call her a monster because of the shotgun blast that left her face horribly disfigured, she pulled out her driver's license to show the child what she used to look like. "I'm not a monster. I'm a person who was shot."

Years later, as the nation's first face transplant recipient, she's stepped forward to show the rest of the world what she looks like now.

Her expressions are still a bit wooden, but she can talk, smile, smell and taste her food again. Her speech is at times a little tough to understand. Her face is bloated and squarish. Her skin droops in big folds that doctors plan to pare away as her circulation improves and her nerves grow, animating her new muscles.

But Culp had nothing but praise for those who made her new face possible.

"I guess I'm the one you came to see today," the 46-year-old Ohio woman said at

a news conference at the Cleveland Clinic, where the groundbreaking operation was performed. But "I think it's more important that you focus on the donor family that made it so I could have this person's face."

Until Tuesday, Culp's identity and how she came to be disfigured were a secret.

Culp's husband, Thomas, shot her in 2004, then turned the gun on himself. He went to prison for seven years. His wife was left clinging to life. The blast shattered her nose,



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CLEVELAND CLINIC/AP

From left: Connie Culp before the injuries to her face, after a gunshot wound destroyed her face in 2004 and after she underwent the first face transplant in the United States at the Cleveland Clinic in December. Culp spoke at a news conference Tuesday in Cleveland.

cheeks, the roof of her mouth and an eye. Hundreds of fragments of shotgun pellet and bone splinters were embedded in her face. She needed a tube into her windpipe to breathe. Only her upper eyelids, forehead, lower lip and chin were left.

A plastic surgeon at the Cleveland Clinic, Dr. Risal Djohan, got a look at her injuries two months later. "He told me he didn't think, he wasn't sure, if he could fix me, but he'd try," Culp recalled.

She endured 30 operations to try to fix her face. Doctors took parts of her ribs to make cheekbones and fashioned an upper jaw from one of her leg bones. She had countless skin grafts from her thighs. Still, she was left unable to eat solid food, breathe on her own, or smell.

Then, on Dec. 10, in a 22-hour operation, Dr. Maria Siemionow led a team of doctors who replaced 80 percent of Culp's face with bone, muscles, nerves, skin and blood vessels from another woman who had just died. It was the fourth face transplant in the world, though the others were not as extensive.

No information has been released about the donor or how she died, but her family members were moved when they saw pictures of Culp, Siemionow said.

Culp left the hospital Feb. 5 and has returned for periodic follow-up care. She has suffered only one mild rejection episode that was controlled with a single dose of steroid medicines, her doctors said. She must take immune-suppressing drugs for the rest of her life, but her dosage has been greatly reduced.

Boston Globe, union reach tentative deal

By MARK PRATT
The Associated Press

BOSTON — The Boston Globe and its largest employees union reached a tentative agreement early Wednesday on concessions that will keep the 137-year-old newspaper publishing, the union president said.

The breakthrough came about 4 a.m. after nearly 11 hours of negotiations, said Dan Totten, president of the Boston Newspaper Guild. Both sides agreed not to release details, pending a meeting of guild members scheduled for Thursday.

The agreement is subject to approval by members of the guild, which represents about 700 editorial, business and advertising staff.

The Globe, owned by The New

York Times Co., had set a deadline of midnight Sunday to reach an agreement with its unions on \$20 million in cuts to annual expenses. The company had threatened to close the Globe.

The Times Co. struck agreements with six of seven unions before the deadline, then resumed talks Tuesday evening with the guild. In those talks, the Globe had proposed to slash guild wages by as much as 23 percent to gain concessions of \$10 million from that union.

Employees were guarded in their response.

"I think everybody is breathing a sigh of relief that there's at least a tentative agreement to keep the Globe publishing, which we all recognize was our top priority," said Scott Allen, a reporter with the Globe.

Senate hears dim forecast for newspapers

WASHINGTON — A Senate panel on Wednesday looked into the question of whether struggling newspapers should be allowed to operate as nonprofits similar to public broadcasting stations.

"While the newspaper industry is in the midst of major transition, we need to protect and nurture the information-gathering abilities that currently reside with newspapers," Sen. Ben Cardin, D-Md.

Under a bill proposed by Cardin, newspapers turning to nonprofit status would no longer be able to make political endorsements but could report on all issues including political campaigns. Advertising and subscription revenue would be tax-exempt and contributions to support coverage could be tax deductible.

From The Associated Press

Border authorities on alert in kidnapping

The Associated Press

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. — Authorities trying to find a 3-year-old kidnap victim say they're investigating several theories, including that the Spanish-speaking kidnappers were from Mexico and may have had ties to organized crime there.

Authorities along the Mexican border were on alert and FBI agents were helping in the investigation into the disappearance of Bryant Rodriguez.

"Every minute, every second that passes, is critical," investigating Sgt. Doug Hubbard said Tuesday at a news conference. "But we are remaining positive and investigating it as if we just went on scene."

Two gunmen burst through the family's front door Sunday and tied up Bryant, four of his siblings and their mother, Maria Rosalina Millan, then ransacked the house, stealing money and other property, the Sheriff's Department has said.

There have been no ransom demands and no motive has been established as to why Bryant was taken.

Sheriff's spokeswoman Cindy Beavers said investigators were considering all possibilities but had no substantial leads.

As more than two days passed since the kidnapping, authorities said they had no lack of tips but none had brought substantial information. The home invasion lasted about 20 minutes.

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IN THE WORLD

Seoul searching

BY JOHN M. GLIONNA

Los Angeles Times

SEOUL — In the world popularity contest, South Korea feels a little like the ugly duckling that wants everyone to know it's really a swan.

Citizens flinch at hearing their country ridiculed as a place where politicians throw punches. They despair over a recent poll of foreigners in which 4 in 10 cited the nation's lack of "charm."

Then there's the outlaw cousin to the north. When much of the world hears the name "Korea," it envisions Kim Jong Il and his hermit state of North Korea, not the democratic nation that has long been a U.S. ally.

Well, South Korea isn't going to take it anymore. The image-obsessed country intends to repair its reputation by spending millions of dollars to develop a national brand.

A what?

In a campaign that has many scratching their heads, South Korea is convinced it must equal the efforts of companies such as Hyundai, LG and Samsung to promote its own public identity. So it's taking part in an international ranking system to compete against other nations on first impressions of outsiders.

Early results are not encouraging. According to one recent Nation Brands Index, South Korea ranked 33rd out of 50 nations — behind countries that officials here whisper are lesser than their own, including Poland and the Czech Republic.

The United States ranked seventh. Germany was No. 1.

President Lee Myung-bak has formed a Presidential Council on Nation Branding and has announced a goal to move up to 15th place by 2013.

"Korea is the world's 13th-largest economy with some \$20,000 in per capita income but ranks only 33rd in the global brand



Kyodo/AP

Kim Yoon Ok, left, the wife of South Korean President Lee Myung-bak, and actor Bae Yong Joon, right, take part in a ceremony in Seoul to launch a group aiming to make South Korean food one of the world's five major cuisines.

index," Lee said. "This is a big problem."

Some find it refreshing that the nation cares about what others think about it. Others hint that it's a bit neurotic.

"Korea's problem is that it doesn't have an Eiffel Tower. Paris doesn't need a slogan — it's Paris," said Phillip Raskin, a public relations executive and branding committee adviser.

Analysts say South Korea has been dealt a bad hand.

"One unfortunate thing is that South Korea shares its name with a rogue state,"

said Simon Anholt, a British government adviser who devised the brand ranking system. "The link to North Korea is bad news. It gets painted with the same brush."

Despite its ancient culture, South Korea is a relatively new player on the modern world stage. "It just hasn't been a significant country for very long," Anholt said. "Other nations have been sending a stream of cultural or political ambassadors into global consumption for many years. Korea hasn't been doing that."

But Lee wants to change that, introducing programs to promote South Korea's tae kwon do and pitching the nation as an environmentally friendly "Green Korea." The centerpiece of his agenda is all about food. The government recently announced a plan to globalize Korean cuisine, vowing to put it among the world's top five cuisines by 2017.

Newspapers carry numerous stories about ways to boost the national image: Should South Korea build a robotics museum and compete with Japan in that emerging industry? How about building some of the world's tallest skyscrapers or opening up a nude beach on a popular resort island?

"I am frustrated that people don't appreciate our culture," said Euh Yoon-dae, chairman of the Presidential Council on Nation Branding. "For so long, Korea has been sandwiched culturally and economically between Japan and China."

Many here have some advice for South Korea: Relax.

"Korea is stuck in this way of thinking that it has to outdance, outspend and out-palace other countries," said Michael Hurt, a local blogger, photographer and branding committee member. "It's never been about that. Korea is a quirky taste."

South Koreans in traditional military dresses perform during the changing-of-the-guard ceremony in front of Seoul's Deoksugung Palace recently. The country has launched an initiative to revamp its image abroad.

LEE JIN-MAN/AP

Google misjudges reaction to historic maps of Japan

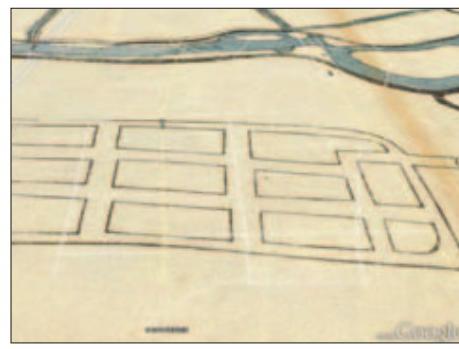
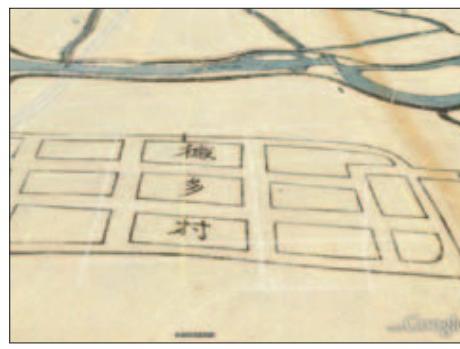
BY JAY ALABASTER

The Associated Press

TOKYO — When Google Earth added historical maps of Japan to its online collection last year, the search giant didn't expect a backlash. The finely detailed woodblock prints have been around for centuries, they were already posted on another Web site, and a historical map of Tokyo put up in 2006 hadn't caused any problems.

But Google misjudged how its offering would be received. The company is now facing inquiries from the Justice Ministry and angry accusations of prejudice because its maps detailed the locations of former low-caste communities.

The maps date back to the country's feudal era, when shoguns ruled and a strict caste system was in place. At the bottom of the hierarchy were a class called the "burakumin," ethnically identical to other Japanese but forced to live in isolation because they did jobs associated with death, such as working with leather, butchering animals and digging graves. Castes have long since been



GOOGLE EARTH/AP

In these computer screen shots taken from the Google Earth software, a feudal map of a village in central Japan from hundreds of years ago, superimposed on a modern street map, is shown. "Eta," an old word for Japan's lower class known as "burakumin," was taken out from the previous version of the image following allegations that the maps could be used to perpetuate discrimination.

abolished, and the old buraku villages largely faded away. But today, descendants still face prejudice based almost entirely on where they live or their ancestors lived.

Lists of "dirty" addresses circulate on Internet bulletin boards. Some surveys have shown that such neighborhoods have lower property values than surrounding

areas, and residents have been the target of racial taunts and graffiti. But the modern locations of the old villages are largely unknown to the general public, and many burakumin prefer it that way.

Google Earth's maps pinpointed several such areas.

One village in Tokyo was clearly labeled "eta," a now strongly derogatory word for burakumin

that literally means "filthy mass." Asked about its stance on the issue, Google responded with a formal statement that "we deeply care about human rights and have no intention to violate them."

Google spokesman Yoshito Funabashi points out that the company doesn't own the maps in question, it simply provides them to users.

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29 killed in Brazil rains

BY CAROLINA ESCALERA
The Associated Press

SAO PAULO — At least 29 people have been killed by floods and mudslides in northern Brazil as authorities struggle to rush aid to dozens of small cities cut off from civilization by overflowing rivers in the Amazon region, officials said Wednesday.

Months of heavy rains extending from the Amazon jungle to the Atlantic coast have forced nearly 200,000 people from their homes and stranded thousands more in 10 states, according to civil defense officials.

Local news media reported that three other people were killed, but authorities did not confirm the deaths.

At least eight people died in the Amazon region of Maranhao state, the most affected area so far. Maranhao civil defense official Abner Ferreira said authorities were struggling to aid those affected because at least six highways were shut down due to the rains.

"We are having difficulties getting help to people because many roads have been swept away with the floods," Ferreira said. "We have two helicopters from the air force. We are using trucks and boats to get people help."

Television footage showed the rooftops of houses poking out of water in flooded towns and peo-



MANU DIAS, AGECOM/AP

An aerial view shows flooded streets in the Boca do Rio neighborhood of Salvador, Brazil, on Tuesday.

ple using boats to move around in their cities.

The rains also prompted the temporary closure of a railway that takes iron ore from the sprawling Carajas mine in the neighboring jungle state of Para, according to a statement from miner Companhia Vale do Rio Doce SA.

Iron ore, the main ingredient in steel, is shipped overseas from Sao Luis, the state capital of Maranhao. The railway also transports 1,300 people per day. Vale is the world's second-largest mining company and the planet's biggest iron ore producer.

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva flew over the hardest-hit areas on Tuesday, delivering food baskets to shelters and meeting with local officials. Silva promised aid to repair infrastructure while voicing concerns that global climate change could be responsible for the unusually heavy rains and destruction.

Floods and mudslides late last year in the southern state of Santa Catarina killed more than 100 people, displaced 80,000 and set off a round of brutal looting in a devastated port city by people desperate for drinking water and food.

China quarantines Mexicans on plane

The Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — Dozens of Mexican nationals quarantined in China despite having no swine flu symptoms arrived home Wednesday on a government-chartered jet, some complaining of "humiliation and discrimination" by the Chinese.

But as Mexicans emerged from their own five-day swine flu shutdown, the death toll rose and many remained fearful.

Mexico City showed more of its usual ebullience during a rousing morning rush hour. Thousands of newspaper vendors, salesmen hawking trinkets and panhandlers dropped their protective masks and added to the familiar din of truck horns and street music. Cafes accepted sitting customers, and many corporate offices reopened.

Construction worker Roberto Reyes, 36, walked through the capital's Chapultepec subway station without a protective mask.

"The news says all of this is over, so I got rid of my mask, and a lot of people are doing the same in the streets," he said.

Many others worried about Mexico letting its guard down too quickly, especially with high schools and universities reopening Thursday and primary schools reopening next week.

Mexico's shutdown was de-

WHO reports 1,658 cases of swine flu

GENEVA — The World Health Organization has updated its tally of human cases of swine flu to 1,658.

The global body says 23 countries have reported laboratory confirmed cases since the outbreak began two weeks ago.

Mexico has 946 laboratory-confirmed cases, including 29 out of 30 deaths. WHO says it has so far received one confirmation of a death from the disease in the United States.

From The Associated Press

signed to reduce the spread of the virus at its epicenter.

The virus keeps setting off more health alarms. A pregnant 33-year-old teacher in Texas who fell into a coma and had her baby delivered by Cesarean section became the first U.S. resident to die of swine flu. And Mexico announced a jump in the confirmed death toll Wednesday to 42.

While the rate of new cases and hospitalizations has declined, epidemiologists said the virus has spread throughout Mexico.

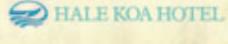
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STARS & STRIPES



FACES

White Stripes drummer to wed

A publicist for The White Stripes says drummer Meg White is engaged to musician Jackson Smith, the son of punk singer Patti Smith and late MC5 guitarist Fred "Sonic" Smith.

Publicist Chloe Walsh says the couple will wed this year, but couldn't confirm other details.

The White Stripes got their start in Detroit, and are fronted by Jack White. Though Meg and Jack White have claimed to be siblings, court records have suggested they were married for four years before divorcing in 2000.

The Detroit Free Press reported White and Smith's wedding plans Saturday on the newspaper's Web site.

— The Associated Press



Rocker Meg White is getting hitched.

her dog and repeatedly demanded money.

— The Associated Press

Allen seeks to block testimony

Actor-director Woody Allen asked a judge on Monday to stop a clothing company from putting his former longtime companion Mia Farrow and her wife — Farrow's adopted daughter — on the witness stand as it defends itself against his claims it used his image on billboards without permission.

In papers filed in U.S. District Court in Manhattan, Allen said Los Angeles-based American Apparel Inc.'s requests to summon Farrow, her adopted daughter Soon-Yi Previn and others, including his sister and Hustler magazine publisher Larry Flynt, are a "brutish attempt to smear and intimidate" him.

Allen sued American Apparel for \$10 million after it used his image on its billboards in Hollywood and New York and on a Web site.

American Apparel lawyer Stuart Slotnick has said the company will make Allen's relationships with Farrow and Previn a focus of the trial to show that Allen's image is no longer worth the \$10 million he believes in his billboard appearance merits.

— The Associated Press



AP

Duvall defends Confederate honor

Would Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee shop at Wal-Mart? That is the question. Absolutely not, insists Oscar-winner Robert Duvall, 78, who is protesting plans to build a Wal-Mart Supercenter near Wilderness Battlefield in Virginia, where his ancestor Lee fought Union leader Ulysses S. Grant.

Duvall said Monday at a news conference that he had nothing against Wal-Mart, but that he found the plans insensitive.

— The Philadelphia Inquirer

'Dallas' star sues housekeeper

Actress Victoria Principal is embroiled in a legal fight with a former housekeeper worthy of a prime-time soap opera.

Maribel Banegas claims she was fired by the former "Dallas" star on Dec. 26, but instead of paying her, the actress threatened to shoot her.

Principal, in turn, sued Banegas, claiming she was a temporary worker who was fired for being unprofessional and aggressive. Principal's lawsuit also claims Banegas damaged a back door at her home, injured

Paisley: Son's name from dream

Country music star Brad Paisley has found inspiration for songs in some unexpected places. So why not the name of his second child?

While a guest on National Public Radio's "A Prairie Home Companion" Saturday, Paisley told host Garrison Keillor that his wife, actress Kimberly Williams-Paisley, dreamed they had a boy and they named him Jasper. So, when their son was born April 17, they named him Jasper Warren Paisley.

— The Associated Press

Dom DeLuise dies

Dom DeLuise, the portly actor-comedian whose affable nature made him a popular character actor for decades with movie and TV audiences as well as directors and fellow actors, has died. He was 75.

DeLuise was surrounded by his wife and three sons when he died "peacefully" Monday in Santa Monica, Calif. He had appeared in scores of movies and TV shows, including "Blazing Saddles," "Smokey and the Bandit II," "The Cannonball Run" and "Spaceballs."

— The Associated Press

Jessica loves her 'Boys

Jessica Simpson is Dallas Cowboys hero Tony Romo's biggest fan. So the pop starlet-turned-pro celeb tells the forthcoming issue of the nation's bible of banality, *Vanity Fair*. But Simpson isn't fickle. She says she was a diehard Cowboys nut long before she started going steady with their quarterback.

"In Texas, it's a sin not to be" a Cowboys fan, says the native Texan. "But I've never been as passionate as I am now. Before a game, I'm crazed, sending mass e-mails: 'Please pray for Tony's protection.'

Simpson does find fellowship with players' wives: "It's a nurturing place to be, around people who love their husbands, but it gives me anxiety to watch [games] with them."

— The Philadelphia Inquirer



Jessica Simpson says in Texas, "it's a sin" not to be a Cowboys fan. Good thing most NFL games are played on Sunday.

Funny jokes, stat!

The unemployed actors from "E.R." should hit the comedy circuit now that the long-running drama is over.

Yvette Freeman played Nurse Haleh Adams on the hit show from 1994 until the recent series finale, and she claims all of the "E.R." actors have the chops to make it big in comedy.

"We had a bunch of funny actors in the show throughout the years," she said. "George Clooney, Eriq La Salle — they were always telling jokes — especially when things started getting really heavy. It was a very happy place."

In fact, the actors had such a knack for comedic timing that they'd forget about the gruesome scenes they were filming.

"There were so many scenes where we had to take our minds off what was going on. Especially toward the end — with blood just pouring everywhere. It was gross!"

If the stand-up comedy circuit doesn't work out, Freeman figures "E.R." actors can just go back to school and become real nurses and doctors.

— Wireless Flash



Yvette Freeman says the cast of "E.R." included some funny folks.

Rihanna steps out in style

Rihanna is back — on the red carpet, at least.

The pop singer arrived Monday at the annual Costume Institute of The Metropolitan Museum gala in New York. It was her first such appearance since then-boyfriend Chris Brown allegedly beat her in February.

Rihanna arrived in black — including both the SUV and her Dolce and Gabbana suit and bow tie. She was the last celebrity to walk the carpet.

"Vogue" editor Anna Wintour once again hosted the gala, which this year served as the kickoff to "The Model as Muse: Embodying Fashion" exhibit.

Guests included Madonna, Victoria Beckham, Kate Hudson, Liv Tyler and designer Stella McCartney.

— The Associated Press

SHIFTING GEARS

Iconic Pontiac hits end of road

BY JOHN ROGERS
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — It could crash through burning buildings, make a fool of any number of small-town Southern sheriffs, help save the world from giant robots, even take criminals off to jail while engaging in witty repartee with its driver.

In the end, about the only thing a Pontiac automobile couldn't do anymore was persuade enough people to keep buying it.

So General Motors announced this past week that it is killing off the Pontiac brand, maker of muscular, noisy, gas-guzzling V-8-powered vehicles immortalized in song and movies for the way they seemed to shout to every other car on the block: "Out of the way, pipsqueak!"

When Burt Reynolds needed to outrun Jackie Gleason's bumbling Sheriff Buford T. Justice across the South in the 1977 movie "Smokey and the Bandit," he chose a black Pontiac Trans Am. When he needed a car to crash through burning buildings in "Hooper," it was a red Trans Am.

On TV, the star of the hit 1980s series "Knight Rider" wasn't really David Hasselhoff, it was his talking Pontiac. When Jim Garner's private eye Jim Rockford needed to hit the road to solve a crime, he didn't get behind the wheel of a Ford Mustang or a Chevrolet Camaro. He chose a Pontiac Firebird.

And when a bored high school senior from Nashville, Tenn., decided to tune out his physics teacher one day and check out a copy of Car and Driver magazine, it was a picture of a hot new Pontiac he saw on the cover.

By the end of class, John Wilkin had written the 1964 pop classic "GTO."

Soon after, he would become known as Ronny Wilkin, frontman for a Beach Boys-soundalike group called Ronny and the Daytonas, and he would have the country singing: "Little GTO, you're really lookin' fine. Three deuces and a four-speed and a 389. Listen to her tachin' up now, listen to her whine. Come on and turn it on, wind it up, blow it out GTO."

For a time, the Monkees rode around in a tricked-out GTO, too.



1976 Pontiac Firebird Trans Am

GENERAL MOTORS CORP./AP

Sometime in the '80s, however, the love affair began to fade.

Car enthusiasts speculated whether it was changing tastes, the move toward more environmentally sensitive cars or perhaps Pontiac's inability to keep coming up with new signature muscle cars that was to blame.

Pontiac's more recent efforts included the very uncool Aztek, a chunky vehicle that looked like an SUV that tried to squeeze under a low-clearance bridge.

Jim Mattison, whose Michigan-based Pontiac Historic Services provides information on the model to collectors, noted that for whatever reason the company hadn't produced anything to capture the public's imagination in a long time.

"In 1963, they came out with this wonderful car called the GTO, then the Firebird in 1967, and then that evolved into the Trans Am," Mattison said. "The momentum kept on building until more recent years."

Pontiac, which discontinued the Firebird and Trans Am in 2002, tried bringing back the GTO in 2004. But the new model, produced in Australia, never caught on and was discontinued two years later.

"It didn't look like a Pontiac. It was still an Australian car," said Chris Brown of the Petersen Automotive Museum, where Pontiacs were on prominent display during a muscle-car exhibition a couple years ago.

Brown had praise, however, for

two of Pontiac's current models, the G8 and the Solstice.

The latter even had enough muscle to be featured in the 2007 Shia LaBeouf movie "Transformers" as the good-guy robot-disguised-as-car named Jazz.

But Jazz was killed off fighting the evil Megatron and probably won't be around for the sequel.

Pontiac, however, will live on, at least in museums (there's a 1939 Woody on display at the Petersen), in private collections (Mattison owns more than a few himself), and in song.

Wilkin heard "GTO" on the radio just the other day.

"It made me happy and sad at the same time," he said. "I was happy to hear the song but at the same time it was like it was being played at a funeral."

Seat covers, coolant may be to blame for cloudy windshield

Dear Tom and Ray:

Last year we bought our teenage son a 1989 Acura Legend coupe. It has been a great car, even though it's pushing 140,000 miles now.

We've had to repair a few things here and there, but there is one thing that has me scratching my head. It seems that no matter how much we clean the windows, they become hazy within a few days.

The windshield is the biggest problem, especially at night, since the haze makes it impossible to see when there is oncoming traffic. I had the windshield replaced, thinking it was just old

and pitted, and that perhaps the safety glass film was failing. The new windshield was brilliant, but within a few days it was foggy again. The haze is on the inside, so I have three possible ideas: (1) My teenage son's oily skin is somehow shape-shifting onto the windows. (2) He smokes a pack of cigarettes while going back and forth to school every day with the windows rolled up. (3) The old upholstery and cheap seat



Click and Clack

Tom and Ray Magliozzi

covers are creating some kind of weird gas that clouds the windows. Since my son takes three showers a day and he never smells like smoke, ideas 1 and 2 are out. Do you think it could be No. 3? — Wade

TOM: Sure. Usually, vinyl outgassing is at its worst when the car is new. So, at 140,000 miles it's usually over and done with, and those toxic molecules are already lodged in your brain.

RAY: But you mention "cheap seat covers." If they're cheap vinyl seat covers, they could be sublimating toxic gases and leaving the residue on the inside of your windshield.

TOM: The other possibility is that your heater core is leaking. If the heater core has a hole in it, the haze on your windshield could be a thin film of coolant.

RAY: If it's coolant, it would have certain characteristics. It would be greasy to the touch. It would smell sweet. And it would likely be thicker at the bottom of the windshield, near where the vents are.

TOM: So try a couple of ex-

periments. Try removing the seat covers for a week, and see what happens. If that fixes it, your son may need to go commando — without his seat covers.

RAY: And check the consistency and smell of the windshield grime and its distribution pattern to see if it's coolant.

TOM: If it is coolant, the solution will involve increasing your son's allowance so he can pay you back over time for a new heater core.

Good luck, Wade.

Got a question about cars? E-mail Click and Clack by visiting the Car Talk Web site at www.cartalk.com.

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YOUR MONEY

Many families will have a chance to refinance

By SUSAN TOMPOR
Detroit Free Press

After losing his truck driving job in December and taking a pay cut when he landed a new job, Mark Lambert would love to trim a few hundred dollars off his \$1,755 monthly mortgage payment by refinancing to a bar-gain-basement interest rate.

It's not going to happen.

He and his wife owe \$193,000 on their house near Fenton, Mich. The house — appraised at \$225,000 in 2001 — is now worth \$148,000 because Michigan's economy tanked and took home prices down with it.

"We're way upside-down," said Lambert, 51.

Everybody wants to save a buck, and refinancing would seem to be a no-brainer when the 30-year mortgage rate is around 5.23 percent. It's not.

Still many families, unlike the Lamberts, can take advantage of great refinancing opportunities this spring. There is a surge of activity.

But others must understand that it's far tougher to refinance than it once was, some fees are higher, and President Barack Obama's program won't help everyone who has trouble refinancing because home values are so low.

"Be realistic, not wishful," suggested Tom Kelly, a spokes-

man for Chase. "Get yourself a good sense of what your house is worth."

Thanks to the tough economy and falling housing prices, a lender today is typically going to want a homeowner to have 20 percent equity in the home to refinance that mortgage. If you had a \$193,000 mortgage, the house would have to be worth at least \$241,250.

Under the Obama plan, there is more wiggle room if the loan-to-value is between 80 percent and 105 percent. Under that plan, a refinancing could be done if the house was worth as little as \$183,809 if the owner had a \$193,000 mortgage.

If you're able to refinance, you can save some money and refinancing an ARM now can avoid future headaches.

To find out if you qualify for the Obama plan, call the company that sends you a mortgage statement each month and ask if you have a Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac mortgage. Or see www.fanniemae.com and www.freddiemac.com. Or call: 800-732-6643 for Fannie and 800-373-3343 for Freddie.

If you can't qualify, like the Lambert family, talk to your lender about a loan modification. You'd need to have trouble paying your bills and show a financial hardship.



Ed Pegler, left, Jason Ramirez and Brian Wilkins, all with American Infrastructure, work on replacing a sidewalk ramp in Silver Spring, Md., recently. The project is part of the economic stimulus package.

JACQUELYN MARTIN/AP

Counting stimulus jobs is a political numbers game

By MATT APUZZO
The Associated Press

SILVER SPRING, Md. — When Ed Pegler was laid off from his highway construction job four months ago, the 47-year-old father of two didn't know when he'd be back to work. Then the phone rang. There was a job, paid for by the federal stimulus law.

It's a story the White House hopes to repeat 3.5 million times, to prove that the historic \$787

billion spending plan is creating jobs and putting Americans back to work.

But it's not the whole story.

Pegler, of Lancaster, Pa., gets laid off every winter, once it gets too cold to lay asphalt. Every spring, he gets hired back. That's the way it goes in his business. Did the stimulus create his job this year? Did it save a job he already had?

Despite setting a high bar for success and requiring states to report every job created, the White House is still figuring out how to answer those questions. It expects to announce its formula for job-counting soon and, until then, it has cautioned against trumpeting numbers.

That hasn't stopped contractors, governors and even President Barack Obama himself from doing just that.

"This project will start this summer, creating an estimated 900 jobs right away," Obama said earlier this month, describing a Michigan construction project.

"Over 2,500 jobs will be created on Missouri's largest wind farm," he said Wednesday.

The announcements are coming faster than the jobs can be created, much less counted. Though the stimulus is moving projects through the pipeline unusually quickly, only a handful of the roughly 6,000 transportation projects announced nationwide are under contract. Even fewer have broken ground.

But with so much riding on the success of the stimulus bill, the celebration isn't waiting.

For economists, it's far too early to discuss job creation, said University of Chicago economics professor Steven J. Davis, the author of a book and several studies on the subject. Meaningful data won't be available for years, he said.

Compounding the problem, Davis said, is that Obama has invented a new standard to measure success: Jobs saved.

Measuring job creation is complicated but possible. Counting

jobs saved by the stimulus is, if not impossible, murky.

"How do you know what a saved job is? How do you know what jobs would have been lost without this?" Davis said. "That was a clever political gimmick to make it even harder to determine whether this policy has any effect."

So far, the definitions the White House budget office has offered are circular: "Jobs created" means new jobs created or filled because of the stimulus. "Jobs retained" means existing jobs retained because of the stimulus.

Most of the numbers being tossed around, including the 900 figures Obama cited, come from a transportation formula estimating the number of jobs "supported" by government spending. It doesn't count new or saved jobs, and the Transportation Department has cautioned against applying the formula to the stimulus.

That doesn't resolve whether Pegler's job was "created." And if his company bids on another project later, will his job be created twice? States have responded to the rules with confusion, and Washington has promised a clarification within the next few weeks.

Elizabeth Okhorn, a spokeswoman for Vice President Joe Biden, said the clarification will meet "the highest analytical standards."

"We take this responsibility of counting jobs very seriously," she said. "But ultimately our first priority will always be creating them."

Even organizations that stand to benefit from the stimulus say the jobs picture is cloudy.

"There will never be a way of counting the particular jobs that were created or saved or supported by the stimulus," said Bill Buechner, the top economist at the American Road & Transportation Builders Association.

He said counting saved jobs requires making "a rough guessimate of what the world would have looked like if you hadn't done anything."

TUESDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

INDEXES

52-week High	Low	Name	Last	Net Chg	% Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
13,136.69	6,469.95	Dow Jones Industrials	8,410.65	-16.09	-.19	-4.17	-35.41
5,536.57	2,134.21	Dow Jones Transportation	3,335.70	-30.83	-.92	-5.70	-37.86
530.57	288.66	Dow Jones Utilities	346.04	-1.30	-.37	-5.67	-32.80
9,687.24	4,181.75	NYSE Composite	5,770.76	-29.46	-.51	+2.24	-39.33
2,433.31	1,130.47	Amerix Index	1,432.81	-18.67	-.129	+2.52	-38.70
2,551.47	1,765.52	Nasdaq Composite	1,754.12	-9.44	-.54	+11.23	-29.36
1,440.24	666.79	S&P 500	903.80	-3.44	-.38	+1.06	-36.27
897.37	397.97	S&P MidCap	577.38	-4.68	-.80	+7.26	-32.61
764.38	342.59	Russell 2000	502.55	-4.27	-.84	+6.62	-31.14
14,564.81	6,772.29	DI U.S. TotMkt	9,279.89	-33.50	-.36	+2.12	-35.14

NYSE

MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg	Most Active (\$1 or More)	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Bkfstm	5389285	10.84	+.46	PCrudeDL	225762	3.06	-.08	
Citigp	4191476	3.31	+.11	DenismG	37871	2.36	-.09	
AmtntGp	2498672	1.73	+.27	EldorGd	25544	8.40	-.21	
DixFinBear	2391895	6.54	+.24	NthngM	25245	1.67	+.02	
SPDR	2262303	90.57	-.31	TrianAcq	19867	9.38	+.04	
DixFinBu	2181608	9.57	-.35	GoldStr	15899	1.44	+.03	
WellsFargo	1728363	23.27	-.98	Taseki	12287	1.57	-.06	
SPDR Fnd	1591734	11.56	-.17	GranFra	11225	2.60	-.08	
LVSAnd	1296777	11.34	+.18	BarcSoil	11135	19.62	-.23	
GenTec	1039345	13.10	-.1	BPZ Res	10650	6.58	+.03	

AMEX

MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg	MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE)	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Bkfstm	5389285	10.84	+.46	PCrudeDL	225762	3.06	-.08	
Citigp	4191476	3.31	+.11	DenismG	37871	2.36	-.09	
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GenTec	1039345	13.10	-.1	BPZ Res	10650	6.58	+.03	

KEY DEFENSE STOCKS

KEY MUTUAL FUNDS

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	% Chg	YTD % Chg
Alliant Technosystem	... 11	82.01	-.24	-4.4		
Boeing	1.68 15	43.15	+.97	+1.1		
Computer Sciences	... 6	37.79	-.08	+7.5		
General Dynamics	1.52 9	53.62	-.38	-6.9		
General Electric	.40 8	13.10	-.13	-19.3		
Halliburton	.35 15	26.16	-.13	+2.9		
Harris Corp.	.80 11	32.18	+.32	+15.4		
Allied Signal	1.21 9	31.68	+.16	+3.5		
L-3 Communications	1.40 11	78.57	+.16	+6.5		
Lockheed Martin	2.28 10	79.68	-.66	-5.2		
Northrop G	1.60 ...	49.95	-.03	+10.9		
Raytheon	1.24 11	47.53	+.56	+6.9		
Rockwell Int'l.	1.16 12	35.08	+.16	+8.8		
Texas Instruments	.44 19	17.86	-.50	+15.1		
Textron Inc.	.08 8	11.19	-.03	-19.3		
United Technologies	1.54 11	51.83	+.65	-3.3		

KEY MUTUAL FUNDS

NAME

Name	NAV	Chg.	% Ret.	YTD % Chg.
Fidelity Invest: GroCo	54.06	-.16	+10.4	
Fidelity Spartan: EqIdxInv	32.00	-.11	+1.0	
Fidelity Invest: USB	10.78	+.01	+1.4	
Fidelity Invest: GroInv	13.19	-.09	+4.4	
Fidelity Invest: AmGrp50	11.68	-.01	+8.4	
Fidelity Invest: Ovrsca	25.02	-.22	+2.7	
Am Fund: GrA	15.46	-.35	+7.1	
Putnam Funds A: GrA	5.59	-.04	+2.7	
AIM Investments A: ChartA p	12.40	-.11	+6.8	
AIM Investments A: ConstA p	16.55	-.02	+2.0	
Frank/Temp Fnk A: SMCpGrA	22.95	-.18	+13.1	
DWS Invest: GroIncs	11.40	-.07	+4.4	
Fidelity Advisor T: EqInv	16.89	-.12	+1.1	
Fidelity Advisor T: GrOppT	21.95	-.02	+15.3	
DWS Invest S: InfDS	34.88	-.27	+6.6	
Putnam Fund: Equity p	6.32	-.02	+2	
Loy Abbott A: DscGIA p	12.23	-.05	+16.2	
Fidelity Advisor T: OvrscaT	13.14	-.10	+2.2	
DWS Invest S: CorpBinc	9.63	+.03	+9	

PRECIOUS METALS

New York Merc close

Gold	\$903.70
Silver	\$13.402

Source: Bank of America, The Associated Press

Prime rate 3.25

Discount rate 0.50

Federal funds market rate 0.00-0.25

3-month bill 0.14

30-year bond 4.08

Source: Bank of America, The Associated Press

Compounding the problem,

Davis said, is that Obama has

invented a new standard to measure success: Jobs saved.

Measuring job creation is com-

plicated but possible. Counting

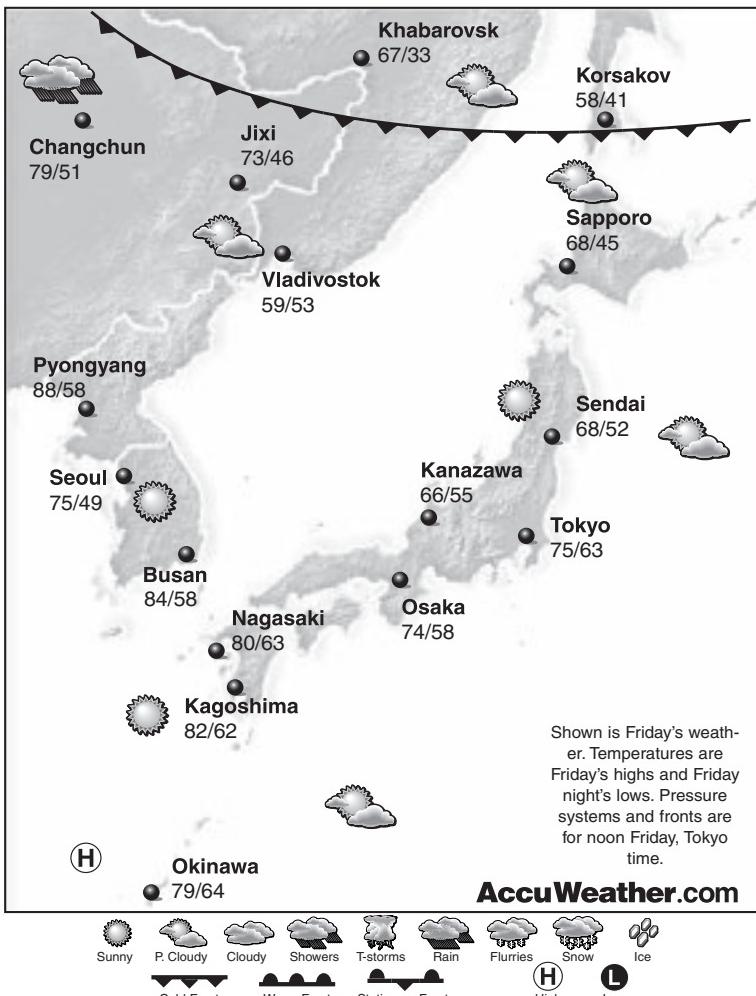
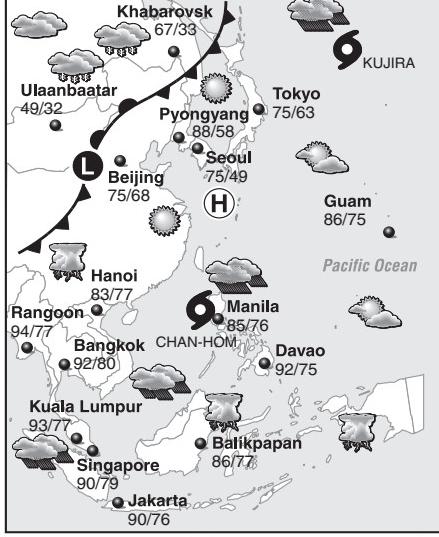
TIDE TABLES

Location	Friday			
	High	Low	High	Low
Japan				
Yokosuka	3:31 a.m.	10:18 a.m.	5:01 p.m.	10:30 p.m.
Sasebo	7:24 a.m.	1:40 a.m.	8:29 p.m.	1:53 p.m.
Naha	6:08 a.m.	12:16 a.m.	7:13 p.m.	12:46 p.m.
Hachinohe	1:36 a.m.	8:42 a.m.	3:35 p.m.	8:35 p.m.
Korea				
Cheju Island/Sogwip'o	10:26 a.m.	5:22 a.m.	10:56 p.m.	5:25 p.m.
Kunsan	2:59 a.m.	9:44 a.m.	3:01 p.m.	9:51 p.m.
Guam				
Apia Harbor	6:13 a.m.	12:50 a.m.	8:13 p.m.	1:22 p.m.
Location	Saturday			
	High	Low	High	Low
Japan				
Yokosuka	3:58 a.m.	10:51 a.m.	5:40 p.m.	11:05 p.m.
Sasebo	7:55 a.m.	2:18 a.m.	9:05 p.m.	2:27 p.m.
Naha	6:39 a.m.	12:51 a.m.	7:52 p.m.	1:20 p.m.
Hachinohe	2:06 a.m.	9:17 a.m.	4:17 p.m.	9:12 p.m.
Korea				
Cheju Island/Sogwip'o	11:02 a.m.	6:09 a.m.	11:31 p.m.	6:02 p.m.
Kunsan	3:36 a.m.	10:23 a.m.	3:36 p.m.	10:26 p.m.
Guam				
Apia Harbor	6:43 a.m.	1:37 a.m.	8:59 p.m.	1:58 p.m.

For tides at other sites apply minutes to Naha tides:

Sukku, Ora Wan: -39, Sesoko Byochi: +11 high and low tide;

Unten Ko: -7 high, -8 low, Yonabaru, Buckner Bay: -44 high, -42 low.



Shown is Friday's weather. Temperatures are Friday's highs and Friday night's lows. Pressure systems and fronts are for noon Friday, Tokyo time.

AccuWeather.com

CANADA**EUROPE****MIDDLE EAST****AFRICA****LATIN AMERICA****ASIA / PACIFIC**

City	Hi	Lo	W	City	Hi	Lo	W	City	Hi	Lo	W	City	Hi	Lo	W
Calgary	57	33	PCloudy	Amsterdam	65	52	Sun	Ashgabat	79	63	PClidy	Abidjan	87	72	Tstm
Edmonton	62	42	Shwr	Athens	74	58	Sun	Baghdad	86	62	PClidy	Algiers	87	62	Tstm
Halifax	60	48	Shwr	Belgrade	75	53	Sun	Cairo	84	61	PClidy	Capetown	68	54	Sun
Iqaluit	19	7	Snow	Berlin	70	50	PClidy	Dhahran	106	80	Sun	Casablanca	90	67	PClidy
Montreal	64	46	Shwr	Brussels	70	46	PClidy	Islamabad	103	70	PClidy	Durban	68	58	Sun
Ottawa	65	51	Shwr	Dublin	55	41	Shwr	Incrilirk	73	61	NH	Freetown	90	71	PClidy
Quebec	59	49	Shwr	Glasgow	53	55	Rain	Kabul	79	50	PClidy	Kano	90	72	Cldy
Regina	54	31	Cldy	Lisbon	79	55	PClidy	Kandahar	98	65	Cldy	Khartoum	109	79	Sun
Toronto	69	48	Shwr	London	63	41	Shwr	Karachi	89	81	Sun	Kisangani	88	66	Tstm
Vancouver	60	47	PClidy	Madrid	81	55	PClidy	Kuwait	100	85	PClidy	Luanda	80	77	Rain
Whitehorse	55	33	PClidy	Moscow	72	43	PClidy	Mazar-e-Sharif	96	69	PClidy	Malakal	100	72	PClidy
Windзор	70	52	Cldy	Paris	70	48	PClidy	Tehran	77	60	PClidy	Moqadishu	89	75	Sun
Winnipeg	49	33	Cldy	Rome	73	52	Sun	Tel Aviv	72	53	Cldy	Tabora	84	63	PClidy
Yellowknife	47	29	PClidy	Warsaw	68	46	PClidy	Zahedan	93	66	PClidy	Timbuktu	111	65	Sun

FRIDAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK

City	Hi	Lo	W	City	Hi	Lo	W	City	Hi	Lo	W	City	Hi	Lo	W
Abilene, TX	93	62	PCloudy	Colorado Springs	65	40	PClidy	Fort Worth	74	49	Tstm	New Orleans	88	71	POlidy
Akron, OH	68	42	Tstm	Columbus, SC	90	65	Tstm	Helena	58	38	Cldy	San Antonio	93	73	PClidy
Albany, NY	74	53	Shwr	Columbus, GA	69	65	PClidy	Helsinki	74	58	Tstm	San Diego	71	59	PClidy
Albuquerque	88	56	Sun	Columbus, OH	72	55	Cldy	Honolulu	86	72	Sun	San Francisco	64	51	Sun
Allentown, PA	76	53	Tstm	Concord, NH	73	48	Tstm	Houston	90	74	PClidy	Sao Paulo	75	61	Sun
Amarillo	78	49	PClidy	Corpus Christi	92	76	PClidy	Huntsville	87	66	Tstm	Santos	91	69	PClidy
Anchorage	57	42	Sun	Dallas	89	67	PClidy	India	65	36	Tstm	Santiago	87	77	Shwr
Asheville	82	59	Tstm	Dayton	71	55	Cldy	Indonesia	80	61	Tstm	Santo Domingo	78	60	PClidy
Atlanta	85	67	Tstm	Daytona Beach	89	67	Sun	Jacksonville	90	69	PClidy	San Jose	90	72	Sun
Atlantic City	76	61	Tstm	Denver	64	36	PClidy	Jacksonville, FL	72	48	Tstm	Santa Fe	83	46	Sun
Austin	93	75	PClidy	Des Moines	72	48	Tstm	Jackson, MS	60	49	PClidy	Saint Petersburg	71	59	PClidy
Baltimore	78	59	Tstm	Detroit	70	50	Cldy	Jessup	63	46	Tstm	San Francisco	64	51	PClidy
Baton Rouge	91	69	PClidy	Duluth	57	36	Cldy	Knoxville	86	65	Tstm	San Francisco	64	51	PClidy
Billings	60	40	Cldy	El Paso	98	67	Sun	Lake Charles	71	54	Cldy	Sao Paulo	64	51	PClidy
Birmingham	88	66	Tstm	Elkins	75	57	Sun	Lansing	73	47	Cldy	Santiago	71	59	PClidy
Blanchard	56	37	Tstm	Eric	67	49	Shwr	Las Vegas	96	77	PClidy	Santos	71	59	PClidy
Boise	63	51	PClidy	Eugene	61	37	Sun	Little Rock	74	46	Cldy	Santiago	71	59	PClidy
Boston	72	54	Tstm	Evansville	76	61	Rain	Los Angeles	87	66	Tstm	Santos	71	59	PClidy
Bridgeport	69	53	Tstm	Fairbanks	60	39	PClidy	Louisville	78	61	Rain	Santos	71	59	PClidy
Brownsville	94	73	PClidy	Fargo	56	33	Shwr	Lubbock	88	57	PClidy	Santos	71	59	PClidy
Buffalo	67	46	Shwr	Flagstaff	79	38	Sun	Macau	91	63	PClidy	Santos	71	59	PClidy
Burlington	69	51	Shwr	Flint	72	47	Cldy	Phoenix	104	75	Tstm	Santos	71	59	PClidy
Caribou, ME	61	42	Shwr	Fort Smith	85	63	Tstm	Pittsburgh	70	54	Tstm	Santos	71	59	PClidy
Casper	55	24	PClidy	Fort Wayne	72	48	Cldy	Portland, OR	58	30	PClidy	Santos	71	59	PClidy
Charleston, SC	88	67	Tstm	Fresno	90	60	Sun	Portland, ME	68	50	Cldy	Santos	71	59	PClidy
Charleston, WV	78	61	Rain	Goodland	68	39	PClidy	Providence	74	53	Sun	Santos	71	59	PClidy
Charlotte, NC	85	62	Tstm	Grand Junction	73	44	Sun	Raleigh	85	62	Tstm	Santos	71	59	PClidy
Chattanooga	85	66	Tstm	Great Rapids	71	47	Cldy	Redding	73	56	Rain	Santos	71	59	PClidy
Chesterfield	51	33	PClidy	Green Bay	56	35	Cldy	St. Louis	72	48	Cldy	Santos	71	59	PClidy
Chicago	68	56	PClidy	Green Bay	70	50	Cldy	Midland	102	64	Sun	Santos	71	59	PClidy
Cincinnati	72	54	PClidy	Greensboro, NC	86	66	Tstm	Sacramento	81	52	Sun	Santos	71	59	PClidy
Cleveland	69	49	Cldy	Harrisburg	75	54	Tstm	San Angelo	86	65	Tstm	Santos	71	59	PClidy

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FRIDAY'S FORECAST**Northern Japan**

Day: Partly sunny and mild. High 68. Night: Increasing clouds. Low 45.

Kanto Plain

Day: Cloudy; warmer, humid. High 75. Night: Mostly cloudy. Low 63.

Southern Japan

Day: Sunny and warmer. High 80.

Night: Clear and moonlit. Low 64.

Okinawa

Day: Sunny and comfortable. High 79.

Night: Clear and moonlit. Low 64.

Korea

Day: Turning cool; cooler. High 63.

Night: Rain and drizzle. Low 53.

Guam

Day: A morning shower. High 89.

Night: Patchy clouds; breezy. Low 75.

SATURDAY'S FORECAST**Northern Japan**

Day: Turning cooler. High 63.

Night: Rain and drizzle. Low 48.

Kanto Plain

Day: Sunny and very warm. High 80.

Night: Increasing clouds. Low 67.

Southern Japan

Day: Sunny and comfortable. High 78.

Night: Clear. Low 64.

Okinawa

Day: Sunny and nice. High 79.

Night: Clear. Low 65.

Korea

Day: An a.m. shower; cloudy. High 66.

Night: Cloudy with rain late. Low 55.

Guam

Day: Sunshine and pleasant. High 88.

Night: A little rain late. Low 75.

SUNDAY'S FORECAST**Northern Japan**

Day: Partly sunny. High 59.

Night: Clear. Low 51.

Kanto Plain

Day: Clouds and sun. High 79.

Night: Cloudy and warm. Low 67.

Southern Japan

Day: Mostly sunny; pleasant. High 78.</

STARS AND STRIPES.

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Caps, Penguins score big

The back page of the May 2 Stars and Stripes has a full page devoted to the Washington Capitals and the Pittsburgh Penguins. There were eight teams that made the NHL playoffs, but only the Capitals and the Penguins got all the attention on the back page.

I am sure the fact that the paper is published in Washington, D.C., has nothing to do with it at all. Maybe Stripes should start publishing in San Jose, Calif., and maybe then the Sharks would have made it to Round 2 and the back page.

All sportsman joking aside, I hope you guys get the chance to publish the Caps holding up the Stanley Cup.

Jason Howell
Camp Victory, Iraq

Congress focusing on sports?

I woke up early Saturday morning and was watching "SportsCenter." That is when I heard that Congress is looking into the NCAA football postseason and the possibility of a playoff system.

Seriously, are you kidding me? Are you saying that our government has nothing more pressing to worry about than how the college football champion is crowned or who in Major League Baseball is on steroids? I can think of a few smaller issues, such as the porous border with Mexico, the deployment of troops, or maybe even the small economic downturn we have been experiencing.

I know by talking with my family members that they couldn't care less how a champion is chosen, and are more concerned with the unemployment rate that is

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still on the rise, even though they are huge college football fans.

Let's get back to what is really important and leave the other things to the governing bodies of the NCAA, MLB, National Football League and National Basketball Association. If they do not have the ability or drive to clean up their respective sports, then the fans will let them know for sure, and they will see it in lost revenue and lack of interest from their fan base.

Staff Sgt. Shawn Jones
Katterbach, Germany

Music and moms with morality

Sorry, but nobody gets a free pass slamming moms with morality ("Classical

music won't work," letter, May 4).

In the last 20 years the morality of America has become a precious metal — rare. As a detective involved with the youth of our community, I can almost pinpoint when the decline became evident. When Johnny commits petty crime and I bring in the parents, I get the all-familiar "Not my Johnny." When Johnny turns 17 and beats a college student for \$30 in cash and is sentenced to 20 years, the parents blame me for not raising their child right.

As for the type of music played at the commissary, my guess is some young manager without a clue is playing music that offends, and it's as simple as asking to have it removed. The reason Wal-Mart, Target and other stores in America don't allow that crap on the airwaves where I'm shopping with my children or friends is I'll complain to the manager. If the response is, "We can only control what we can control," that is when I release the shopping cart and tell the manager to "take control of this, as I'll shop elsewhere."

As for classical music, this would drive me nuts, but stores had this figured out in the 1950s. They play elevator music, and people shop without a clue as to what they are listening to. Instead, we find ourselves talking to our spouse, kids or friends at the store and never have to think about that crap that degrades the morality of this country.

So, there you go, take back what you can control and remember that the dollar is much stronger than some clueless manager who thinks his type of music is cool.

As for the moms with morality, we need more of them. Lots, lots more.

Master Sgt. Ryan R. Runyan
Al Taqaddum, Iraq

Afghanistan, Pakistan difficult friends

Washington Post editorial

President Barack Obama met Wednesday with two presidents who are broadly disliked and distrusted both in their own countries and in Washington — and who nevertheless play a central role in policies vital to U.S. national security. Afghanistan's Hamid Karzai, the toast of the town during his first official visit seven years ago, has alienated many Afghans because of his ineffectiveness and tolerance of corruption; U.S. military commanders resent his public complaints about operations that cause civilian casualties. Asif Ali Zardari of Pakistan, who inherited political leadership from his assassinated wife, Benazir Bhutto, has frittered away authority in feuds with other civilian political leaders even as Pakistan's Islamic extremists have grown in strength. ...

Guarding U.S. interests might be easier if Obama had different partners for his tri-lateral summit. Yet the reality is that the administration probably will have to depend on these two men for the foreseeable

future. So far, Karzai is a heavy favorite to win Afghanistan's Aug. 20 presidential election. ... Zardari's term as president runs until 2013; were he to be ousted by unconstitutional means, Pakistan's precarious situation would only grow worse. U.S. officials have considered pressing for the creation of a powerful Afghan prime minister's post that could absorb some of Karzai's duties, and they are pushing Zardari to turn his feud with former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif into an alliance. But even if those strategies succeed, Obama will need to find ways to work more effectively with both presidents.

He could make a good start with Karzai by acknowledging that the Afghan leader's concerns about civilian casualties are legitimate — and by committing his administration to finding ways to minimize them as more U.S. troops deploy around the country. The added troop presence might reduce the necessity of airstrikes, which cause many of the casualties. The United States, which is training thousands

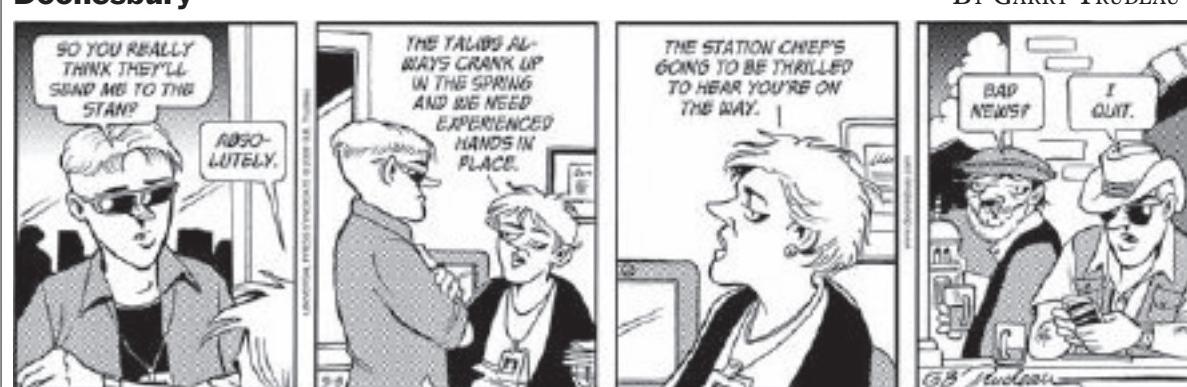
of Afghan soldiers, also could do more to train skilled civilian cadres for the Afghan government.

Zardari will be asking for the rapid application of desperately needed military and economic aid. ...

The administration has asked Congress to quickly approve \$400 million for military equipment for the Pakistani army to continue an incipient offensive against the Taliban; it also wants to spend \$1.5 billion annually to build Pakistani schools and other civilian institutions. While the Bush administration erred in delivering condition-free aid to Pakistan's former military government, Obama must discourage Congress from attaching rigid or too-detailed conditions to the new program. Both the administration and Congress must accept that America's partners in Afghanistan and Pakistan are both far from perfect and unlikely to change much for the better — and that finding practical ways to work with them is essential to winning the battle against Islamic extremists.

By GARRY TRudeau

Doonesbury



OPINION

Killing by remote control comes at a cost

BY DOYLE McMANUS

Los Angeles Times

David Kilcullen is no soft-headed peacenik.

He's a beefy, 41-year-old former Australian army officer who served in Iraq as a top adviser to U.S. Army Gen. David Petraeus. He's one of the counterinsurgency warrior/theorists who designed Petraeus' successful "surge" of troops into the streets of Baghdad.

But a few days ago, when a congressman asked Kilcullen what the U.S. government should do in Pakistan, the Australian warrior fighter sounded like an anti-war protester.

"We need to call off the drones," Kilcullen said.

In the arid valleys of western Pakistan, the United States is fighting a strange, long-distance war against al-Qaida, the Taliban and their Pakistani allies. Unmanned "drone" airplanes take off from secret runways, seek out suspected terrorists and, with CIA employees at the remote controls, fire missiles to blow them up.

Officially, this is a covert program, and the CIA won't acknowledge it at all. Unofficially, intelligence officials say the Predator strikes are the most effective weapon they have against al-Qaida.

President Barack Obama has embraced an escalation in the raids that was approved by his predecessor, George W. Bush, last summer. The CIA has carried out at least 16 Predator strikes in Pakistan in the first four months of this year, compared with 36 strikes in all of 2008. The missile strikes have killed about 161 people since Obama's inauguration, according to news reports from Pakistan; there's no way of knowing how many of those were civilians.

Only one problem: Kilcullen says the

missile strikes are backfiring.

Kilcullen's objection to the U.S. strategy isn't moral (he doesn't mind killing "bad guys") or legal (most legal scholars consider "targeted killing" acceptable under the law of war because al-Qaida and the Taliban are at war with the United States). Kilcullen's objection is practical. He says the strikes are creating more enemies than they eliminate.

"I realize that they do damage to the al-Qaida leadership," he told the House Armed Services Committee. But that, he said, was not enough to justify the program. "Since 2006, we've killed 14 senior al-Qaida leaders using drone strikes; in the same time period, we've killed 700 Pakistani civilians in the same area. The drone strikes are highly unpopular. They are deeply aggravating to the population. And they've given rise to a feeling of anger that coalesces the population around the extremists and leads to spikes of extremism. ... The current path that we are on is leading us to loss of Pakistani government control over its own population."

Another problem, Kilcullen says, is that "using robots from the air ... looks both cowardly and weak."

In the Pashtun tribal culture of honor and revenge, face-to-face combat is seen as brave; shooting people with missiles from 20,000 feet is not. And besides, Kilcullen says, "There are other ways to do it."

Kilcullen didn't elaborate on those "other ways," but intelligence experts say they could include deploying covert teams of hit men on the ground (risky) and training Pakistani special operations units to do the job (time-consuming).

There's no sign yet that the Obama administration is taking his advice. The CIA, like any organization, is glad to take credit for a well-run operation that's ful-



CHRIS McCANN/Courtesy of the U.S. Army

David Kilcullen, left, asks a question of Lt. Col. Michael Infantino, commander of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), in Yusufiyah, Iraq, in 2007. Kilcullen, then counterinsurgency adviser to Gen. David Petraeus, recently told a congressional committee that U.S. strikes in Pakistan aimed at the Taliban and al-Qaida are creating more enemies than they eliminate.

filling its mission: eliminating al-Qaida leaders. Some even claim that the missile strikes have pushed al-Qaida to the brink of extinction.

"Al-Qaida is on the ropes," the Bush administration's last terrorism czar, Juan Carlos Zarate, told me recently. "We are at the point where we can imagine an end to al-Qaida as we know it."

There's an echo here of the debate over another CIA program, the "enhanced interrogation" of terrorist detainees. The agency declared the interrogations a success because they produced useful in-

formation. But that narrow accounting ignored the damage to other U.S. interests, such as diplomacy and the rule of law.

One legal scholar, Kenneth Anderson of American University, says there's another connection between the two issues: The controversy over how to detain, interrogate and try suspected terrorists has made it simpler just to shoot them. "The most powerful institutional incentive today is to kill rather than capture them," he wrote recently. From a legal perspective, he suggested, warfare is easier than "lawfare."

The problem in western Pakistan is that two U.S. interests are in conflict. We want to kill the leaders of al-Qaida, but we also want to strengthen the government of Pakistan, which is under serious pressure from Islamist insurgents. At the moment, as Kilcullen points out, we are doing the first at the expense of the second.

The drone strikes play into the hands of insurgents, who cite them to stir up anti-Western and anti-government sentiment. And, according to some reports, the missile strikes have driven al-Qaida and Taliban forces deeper into Pakistan.

So what happens next? The Obama administration is unlikely to abandon one of the few strategies that has produced results against al-Qaida in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Instead, it has requested a new \$400 million fund to train and equip counterinsurgency forces in Pakistan's police and Frontier Corps, which are more enthusiastic about this fight than the regular army.

Counterinsurgency is neither sanitary nor bloodless. It may end up a measure of success if we can stop killing people with air-to-ground missiles and go back to killing them the old-fashioned way.

Doyle McManus is a Los Angeles Times columnist.

Some give low marks to Gen. Jones' low profile

BY MARTIN SCHRAM

From Day One, President Barack Obama has been making commander-in-chief decisions on the multiple, overlapping and overwhelming national security crises he found in his inbox.

Yet through the first 100 Days of national security crises, you almost never read or heard these three words in the mainstream news: "General James Jones."

Don't worry, this isn't a test. He is Obama's national security adviser.

Yes, the same job the news media bathed with celebrity-glitterati coverage when Henry Kissinger was starring in the Nixon years. The job Zbigniew Brzezinski masterminded with ample media attention during the Carter presidency.

But Jones — who came to the job with the highest of recommendations, as a former Marine commandant, commander of NATO forces, and one who advised both John McCain and Barack Obama — set out to keep a low profile on his high perch.

There is fine precedent: Air Force Gen. Brent Scowcroft, widely admired as perhaps the best national security adviser (under Presidents Gerald Ford and George H.W. Bush), saw his role as making sure the president got the full range of views, especially from advisers cautioning against an action about to be taken.

That hasn't always happened. Condoleezza Rice gets low marks from most experts on national security advisers. Indeed, she once offered this excuse for why she didn't always ensure that President George W. Bush got ample advice to counterbalance Vice President Dick Cheney and Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and buttress Secretary of State Colin Powell: Rice, a

46-year-old academic when she got the job, demurred to an interviewer that she was merely "the baby" of the group.

Time Out: Kissinger was a 46-year-old academic when he began as national security adviser for the geopolitically formidable Richard Nixon. Yet the ears boggle at the notion of Kissinger calling himself "the baby" of any group.

Jones clearly opted for the Scowcroft model. But we have yet to discover whether he is succeeding, because the Obama press corps hasn't done due diligence in reporting whether Obama gets the full range of advice he needs. Jones' name has appeared in Washington Post news articles only a handful of times since Inauguration Day ...

So too for The New York Times' cover-

age — until the other day. A May 2 piece about Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton's job performance asserted she had good rapport with Obama and is now influential in policymaking. Then this: "But State Department officials, and others in the administration, say less-than-generous things about Mr. Obama's national security adviser, Gen. James L. Jones, suggesting there is some jockeying among the top officials around the president. General Jones, these people say, has struggled with his transition from Marine commander to senior staff person, speaking up less in debates than Mrs. Clinton and not pushing as hard for decisions."

Incoming, General! ...

Suddenly the low-keyed Jones was an out-front warbler, showcasing his promi-

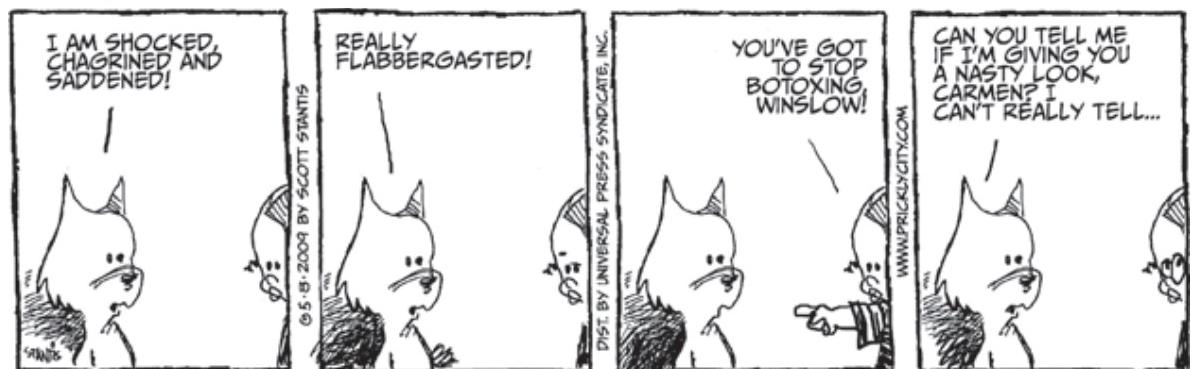
nence. On Tuesday a Times article, headlined "Advances by the Taliban Sharpen U.S. Concerns," quoted Jones in the second paragraph: "Recent militant gains in Pakistan have so alarmed the White House that the national security adviser, Gen. James L. Jones, described the situation as 'one of the very most serious problems we face.' Pakistan, he said Monday, 'has to survive as a democratic nation.'"

Especially in national security, intramural feuds can escalate quickly — and brake, if not break, the policymaking machinery. That's the last thing Obama needs.

So look for a Harmony-R-U photo-op, appearing any day now on your iPod or television screen.

Martin Schram writes political analysis for Scripps Howard News Service.

Prickly City



By SCOTT STANTIS

1 dead after beer game ends badly

PA BRIDGEPORT — One man is dead and another in jail after what suburban Philadelphia police say was an argument over a drinking game that escalated into a fatal shooting.

Investigators said Joseph Jimenez, 24, fatally shot Scott Riley, 25, after they argued over a game of beer pong at a party in Bridgeport, about 15 miles outside Philadelphia.

Authorities say the men began arguing over the game then met up outside, where Riley mocked Jimenez and challenged him to shoot.

According to a police complaint, Jimenez drew a concealed .40-caliber handgun and fired, striking Riley in the neck. Riley died at a hospital.

Jimenez is being held without bail on first- and third-degree murder charges. It could not be immediately determined whether he has an attorney.

Texas seeks help finding child support deadbeats

TX HOUSTON — Texas authorities want the public's help tracking down the state's top 10 deadbeat parents, who together owe more than \$521,000 in overdue child support payments.

Attorney General Greg Abbott released the 2009 list, selecting parents who officials say can take responsibility for their children but don't. All the men and women on the list are wanted on civil or criminal warrants and face jail time and fines for failing to pay child support. They have missed court-mandated child support payments for at least six months.

"All of them are hiding, purposefully eluding," Janece Rolfe, spokeswoman for the attorney general's child support division, said in a story in the Houston Chronicle.

Topping the list was Jimmie McCullough, 49, who owes \$133,866 for support of his two children in Fayetteville. He sometimes uses the alias of Randy McCullough and was last known to be in Texarkana. He has the names "Candy," "Mandy," and "Lisa" tattooed on his arms.

Washington's inaugural address is re-enacted

NY NEW YORK — Wearing a brown frock coat and knee pants just as George Washington did 220 years ago, Dannell T. Maguire recited the presidential oath of office, took the "huzzahs" from the crowd and read the nation's first inaugural address — well, some if it, anyway.

Compared to the lengthy address that Washington delivered on April 30, 1789, Maguire's re-enacted version was just a Twitter — a few selected excerpts, cut into 140-character snippets and posted on the online social network of that name.

Such 18th-century phrases as "the vicissitudes incident to life" may have seemed out of place as a "tweet," but they still fit nicely in the setting where Maguire spoke — the historic St. Paul's Chapel



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

on lower Broadway, where every year for half a century, members of the Freemasons have recreated the event that launched the United States as a nation.

The recent 220th anniversary of Washington's inaugural drew a churchful of spectators including tourists who just happened to wander in at the right moment, drawn by exhibits relating to the 9/11 terrorist attacks at the nearby World Trade Center site.

Church molestation cases dwindling 3 years later

MO WASHBURN — There was a lot of public attention when leaders of two obscure churches in the Ozarks woods were accused of ceremonially abusing girls, preparing them for "service to God" by molesting them.

The allegations involved extended families in southwest Missouri, a largely rural area that has one of the state's highest rates of reported child abuse and has had other high-profile abuse cases.

But nearly three years later, the cases have almost completely unraveled. Only one of the six defendants remains charged, and he is free on bail while waiting for a yet-to-be-scheduled trial.

All six defendants, related by blood or marriage, pleaded not guilty. Hearing after hearing was held. Many of the approximately 100 members of the churches



Festive face

Alexandra Rodriguez, 7, a student at Nancy Lopez Elementary School, has her face decorated during the Fiesta del Rio Cinco de Mayo celebration at Cahoon Park in Roswell, N.M.

moved away.

"This is exactly what I didn't want to happen," said Erin Wil lis, attorney for one of the accusers.

"What I wanted is for them to feel vindicated, for them to come through it feeling like the legal process served them as it was meant to."

"I'm not sure we accomplished that here."

Errant voice mail has school on detention

NY GREECE — Students and staff at a suburban Rochester high school have been told to ignore the voice mail telling them they're on detention — all 1,400 of them.

A voice mail blast was sent out to more than 1,400 students and staff at Greece Arcadia High School reminding them they had to serve detention.

A school district spokeswoman said the recent changes to the school's voice mail delivery system may have caused the error.

The school later sent out a new voice mail blast correcting the first message.

Limo driver 'very sorry' for prom night arrest

MA LOWELL — A limo driver accused of being drunk while bringing a group of Lowell Catholic High School teens home from their prom has apologized through his attorney.

Brian Harrison of Tewksbury was released on personal recognizance after pleading not guilty at his arraignment in Lowell District Court. He was charged with operating under the influence.

Harrison's lawyer, William Harvey, said his client was "very sorry" and "extremely remorseful" about what happened.

Police said the teens became alarmed by Harrison's erratic driving and demanded that he let them off at a movie theater. One of the teens contacted a parent, who called police.

The 45-year-old Harrison, who was working for Lynette's Limousine Service in Wilmington, was subsequently fired by the company.

Teen accused of arson, burglary and theft

NH MERRIMACK — Police say a 14-year-old boy has been accused in Merrimack, N.H., with burglarizing two homes, setting a fire inside one of them and taking a pistol and ammunition.

The Telegraph reported the burglary and vandalism.

Among the items stolen were a 9-millimeter pistol and ammunition. Police recovered the weapon before it was believed to have been used.

Police said the teen put out the fire before the residents came home.

Stolen merchandise recovered by police include video games, assorted jewelry, DVDs and a global positioning satellite unit.

The teen, being charged as a juvenile, faces a felony arson charge, two counts of felony burglary and a felony firearm theft charge.



Ye olde fun

Lances are poised to strike as knights joust during the Ocean Springs, Miss., Renaissance Faire and Celtic Heritage Festival.



Fireball

Flames erupt after a morning explosion at the Veolia Environmental Services plant in West Carrollton, Ohio, a largely industrial area south of Dayton. The blast injured two and damaged nearby homes.



A sense of serenity

The Rev. Koichi Barrish, senior priest of Tsubaki Grand Shrine of America in Granite Falls, Wash., blesses the new gatehouse at the Japanese Garden in Washington Park Arboretum in Seattle during a formal Shinto ceremony. The new area was designed to look like a Japanese village and includes a conference room with ornate glass, an admissions facility and a rest area.

**Go fish**

Ron White, known as "Memory Guy" in Euless, Texas, trains for memory competitions underwater so he can practice tuning out distractions as he memorizes the order of a deck of cards. He will then reconstruct the order in a second deck of cards. Memory Guy is a record-holding U.S. Memory Champion.



Surprise! Students Yasmin Ware, left, and Johnarra Bethea react to the new desks in their classroom at J.V. Martin Junior High School in Dillon, S.C. Students at the rural South Carolina middle school, whose shoddy condition was highlighted in a speech by President Barack Obama, arrived recently to find their tattered furniture replaced by hundreds of new desks and chairs.

**Out for a ride**

A horse-drawn carriage carries Scott and Kim Porzky along a road in Lebanon, Wis.

Layoffs, spending cuts, tax hike in NYC budget

NY NEW YORK — Mayor Michael Bloomberg's final budget plan for the next fiscal year will include layoffs, more spending cuts and a sales tax increase.

Administration officials say the plan cuts 3,750 jobs. But teachers and uniformed services will be spared.

Bloomberg's preliminary budget proposal in January warned of layoffs, cuts and a sales tax increase. But officials said his new plan will contain a slightly higher increase than the 0.25 percent initially proposed.

Fiscal year 2010 begins July 1. The City Council and the mayor must agree on the budget by then.

Vandals target homes using paintball guns

VA MARTINSVILLE — Vandals wielding paintball guns left their mark on more than 125 homes and businesses in Henry County.

Authorities say the vandals shot green paintballs at buildings in Martinsville and in southern Henry County.

Henry County sheriff's Sgt. Jay Whitlow said the vandals "went on a rampage."

Martinsville spokesman Scott Coleman said damage estimates are not yet available but paintballs generally don't leave permanent marks.

Martial-arts experts accused in beating

MA BOSTON — Three martial-arts experts who allegedly beat two other men outside a McDonald's restaurant have been ordered to surrender their passports.

The Suffolk District Attorney's office said 23-year-old Bruno DaCosta of Everett; 25-year-old Iury Debs of Lynn; and 23-year-old Diego Santos of Everett were each held on \$2,500 bail and ordered not to leave the state at their arraignment in Chelsea District Court.

The three men pleaded not guilty to two counts each of aggravated assault and battery.

Prosecutors say the suspects beat the victims after a confrontation at a Revere club. The defendants allegedly knocked the victims to the ground, then kicked and slapped them.

Authorities said one of the victims was hurt so severely that he could have permanent brain damage.

Cops urged to prepare for kids playing hooky

MA REVERE — City councilors just outside Boston say police should be better prepared for large crowds descending on a local beach after thousands of students skipped school and headed there.

Authorities were caught off guard when as many as 4,000 teenagers playing hooky hopped on trains and descended on Revere Beach, considered the country's oldest public beach, as the temperature hit a record 93 degrees.

Local, state and transit police

say they reacted as quickly as possible. But traffic was tied up on nearby streets for much of the day.

Six people were arrested, and one injury was reported.

Council President Daniel Rizzo called for coordinated police planning to avoid similar crowd and traffic problems in the future.

Man accused of robbing woman of \$2 at gunpoint

NY FARMINGVILLE — Police on Long Island say a man accused of stealing \$2 from a 72-year-old woman is being held for arraignment.

Suffolk County police said Ryan Mercorella, 24, faced arraignment in Central Islip on first-degree robbery charges.

Police said the Farmingville man also was charged in unrelated cases with grand larceny, possession of a controlled substance and driving with a suspended license.

Police said the woman was robbed with what appeared to be a handgun in Farmingville as she walked through a parking lot.

Woman sentenced for false hijacker report

CA LOS ANGELES — A woman is under house arrest for falsely reporting that a man she was stalking was going to hijack a plane in Los Angeles — a lie authorities say nearly prevented him from attending his own wedding.

Susan Kriss, 24, was sentenced in federal court to six months of house arrest, three years of probation and psychological counseling.

Kriss called police at Los Angeles International Airport in August 2007 to report that Essam Beshara intended to hijack a flight to Egypt.

Beshara and his family were barred from the flight and had to spend about \$14,000 on last-minute tickets for another flight to get to his wedding on time.

Kriss' attorney, John Passante, said his client had mental health issues since childhood and "made it her hobby to bother" Beshara.

Escapee, 62, caught in convict roundup

TN NASHVILLE — A 62-year-old man living in upstate New York has been arrested after walking away from a prison workhouse in Nashville where he had been serving a sentence nearly 29 years ago.

Police arrested Robert T. Henry in Troy, N.Y., part of the state's effort to round up escaped convicts that started in 2007. A Tennessee newspaper report showed shortcomings in the system for tracking and prosecuting escaped convicts that allowed more than 120 fugitives to dodge capture for years.

The Department of Correction says 14 prisoners who fled custody have been caught.

Henry was serving a 10- to 15-year sentence for a robbery conviction when he was granted a temporary leave from the workhouse in 1980 and didn't return.

Stories and photos from wire services

Horoscope

The full moon in Scorpio brings passion, mystery, tension and desire. Every relationship has a story, and those stories get a lot more interesting tonight. Take the time to look and feel your best. You'll only see the ripe opportunities if you're not self-conscious about how you're coming across. The lovely mood will carry into the weekend.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (MAY 8)



Holiday Mathis

You are open-minded and you have a giving heart. The love you experience this spring enriches your life in unexpected ways. June brings a bonus. There's a lifestyle upgrade and perhaps a new addition to your family in September. October represents an intellectual high and your ideas will be recognized. Capricorn and Virgo adore you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19).

Your muses are working overtime, so be ready to capture the ideas that pop into your head. A notebook is a must. The theme revolves around how you can ratchet up the excitement level in your life.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20).

You will be expected to stick to the outline, stay with the plan and do it all within the budget. Those constructs feel too restrictive to you. But if you're pampered and praised enough, you'll be likely to comply.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21).

You want to believe in a happy ending and it is precisely because you can't bring yourself to lose faith that such an ending will happen for you. Keep thinking about the lovely way everything is going to work out.

CANCER (June 22-July 22).

Romance and melodrama will pull you in. The situation may not include you directly, but you will get a great deal of pleasure or entertainment by being peripherally involved.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).

Life is never dull for you, either because crazy things happen in your world or because you're busy making crazy things happen. Take the reins today.

— generate the excitement instead of letting it happen to you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).

You may not be sure if you can pull off a certain task, but the fact that you want to try bodes well for your success. Chances are good that you will rise to the occasion when all eyes are on you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).

You put special care into your appearance, choosing attention-getting details that tell the world you are no ordinary citizen. Indeed, you have something surprising to offer those who try to get to know you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).

You can shift quickly from mood to mood. It's not because you're unstable, but because you are so in tune with the vibes that other people are sending out that you can't help but empathize to some degree.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).

You need more security today than usual. You want to make a move, but not a risky one. Accomplished people will offer advice. With a willing spirit, you'll embrace these suggestions.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).

You can't hide your emotions. How you feel about a person colors every nuance of your interactions. If you are trying to keep it a secret that you love someone or dislike them immensely, don't be around that person today.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).

The way you handled a situation yesterday may be nothing like the way you will handle it today. You are changing and growing. Loved ones are riveted because they don't know what you'll do next.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).

Something that held a lot of intrigue for you at one time is no longer interesting. It's possible that you've gotten all you could out of this for the time being. Seek new adventures this afternoon.

Creators Syndicate

SUDOKU

Difficulty: Very Hard

Fill in the boxes so that each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. For solution, tips and computer program, see www.sudoku.com

Yesterday's solution

6	2	8	4	7	1	9	3	5
3	7	5	6	2	9	4	8	1
9	8	4	1	5	3	2	7	6
5	1	7	8	2	6	4	3	9
6	9	1	9	8	7	3	2	4
7	3	9	8	1	2	5	4	6
2	4	9	5	7	3	6	8	1
1	9	2	4	3	5	8	6	7
4	7	3	2	8	9	1	5	6

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Eugene Shaffer Crossword

A crossword puzzle grid consisting of a 10x10 grid of squares. Some squares are blacked out, while others are white and contain a number from 1 to 48, representing the word length or a specific clue identifier. The blacked-out squares form a complex pattern of shapes, including a large cross-like shape in the center and several smaller clusters.

ACROSS

- ## 1 Volcano output

- ### Three Bears

00000

- | | | | |
|-----------|----------------------|----|----------------------------|
| 1 | Ofeibi preceptor | 23 | Urganda |
| 2 | Try the tree | 24 | Pareky partner? |
| 3 | Abductees | 30 | Witty ones |
| 4 | Boss and
Bartlett | 33 | Short-necked
owlbird |
| 5 | Related | 34 | Post Teesdale |
| 6 | Aplus | 35 | "Read Time With
Bill —" |
| 7 | Fool | 37 | Part of a Betabull |
| 8 | Profounders
Ends | 38 | Secondhand |
| 9 | Depository brand | 39 | Configuration |
| 10 | Eyeball | 40 | Prefix with
pleam |
| 11 | Appear | 42 | Upper limit |
| 12 | British robbery | 43 | Yoko of music |
| 13 | Getet the villain | 44 | Shad deficiency |
| 20 | Tater | 45 | Scalz member |

Answer to Previous Page

A crossword puzzle grid with 24 words filled in:

- ACE
- NOAH
- NABA
- EXTRAS
- PRETENDER
- FACET
- EBON
- DON
- SUSPENDERS
- DINK
- LIMP
- ACNE
- BEEF
- PEP
- ROE
- ONE
- MED
- JUS
- DUKES
- BASTE
- PATE
- EGO
- TAX
- SPY
- NEAR
- AXLE
- ITEM
- DEFY
- DUKE

5

СВЕДЕНИЯ

W WRSKWFJ S BWUINJP UTTP
UNSU USBIX UNJ XBWFX TZ
TZ XTYQ ZQYWUX RWKNU

K J U I S P P J I C S P J R T P S W C.
Yesterday's Cryptquip: SUPPOSING SOME
COINED MONEY WAS BECOMING REALLY
THREATENED, WOULD THAT BE ENDANGERED
SPECIES?

Today's Cryptquip Clue: Tequila & C

Kids caught in dietary debate

Dear Abby: My wife is a vegetarian, but I am not. We agreed to raise our children as vegetarians until they could make that decision for themselves.

My children are now 6 and 10 and have indicated that they no longer want to be vegetarians. The older child is particularly frustrated that she's not allowed to eat such things as pasta sauce or soup that contains beef or chicken stock.

However, my wife is now renegeing on our agreement. She says the kids aren't old enough to make such a decision, and she's refusing to set an age when they can do so.

I don't think we, as parents, should impose our preferences on our kids and deny them what they want. Am I wrong?

— Massachusetts Carnivore

Dear Carnivore: Are you kidding? Parents impose their preferences on their children all the time, and for as long as they can.

Dear Abby



But unless she is prepared to stand over them 24/7, there is no way she can prevent them from eating meat if they are determined to do so.

What she can do is make sure they understand why she is a staunch vegetarian and why she would prefer that they remain that way. But there's no guarantee that they will — particularly if she permits this to become a power struggle.

Dear Abby: You have always encouraged your readers to stay informed and be prepared. That's why we are writing you on behalf of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Office of Women's Health (OWH) and WomenHeart to share with you and your readers our new, free Heart Health Kit for women and their families.

Heart disease is the leading cause of death among American women, but we can all take steps to protect ourselves. That's why

the OWH and WomenHeart have teamed up to create this must-have kit. It features information on major topics that are essential to keeping your heart healthy — including high blood pressure, cholesterol, diabetes and stroke. It also includes tips for women on recognizing the signs of a heart attack.

— Kathleen Uhl, M.D., Assistant Commissioner For Women's Health, FDA; Lisa Tate, CEO, National Coalition For Women With Heart Disease

Dear Kathleen And Lisa: My readers' well-being is important to me, and I'm pleased to help get the word out. For the fastest service, the kits can be ordered online at www.pueblo.gsa.gov. If you don't have online access, send your name and address to Heart Health Kit, Pueblo, CO 81009, or call toll-free (888) 878-3256 weekdays 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern time and ask for the kit.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uepress.com/dearabby> Universal Press Syndicate

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

OPEN



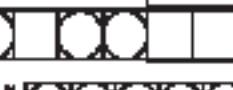
ANGLD



WAIBLE



STIGED



A: " [REDACTED] " THE [REDACTED]

[Answers tomorrow]

Yesterday's Jumble: WHOOP LANKY GROUCH BECKON
Answer: When the shepherds went bickering, they worked by — HOOK OR BY CROOK

THAT SCRABBLE WORD GAME
by Mike Angstien and Jeff Krupek



WHAT THE HOCKEY TEAM'S DENTIST DID WHEN THE PLAYER LOST SOME TEETH.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

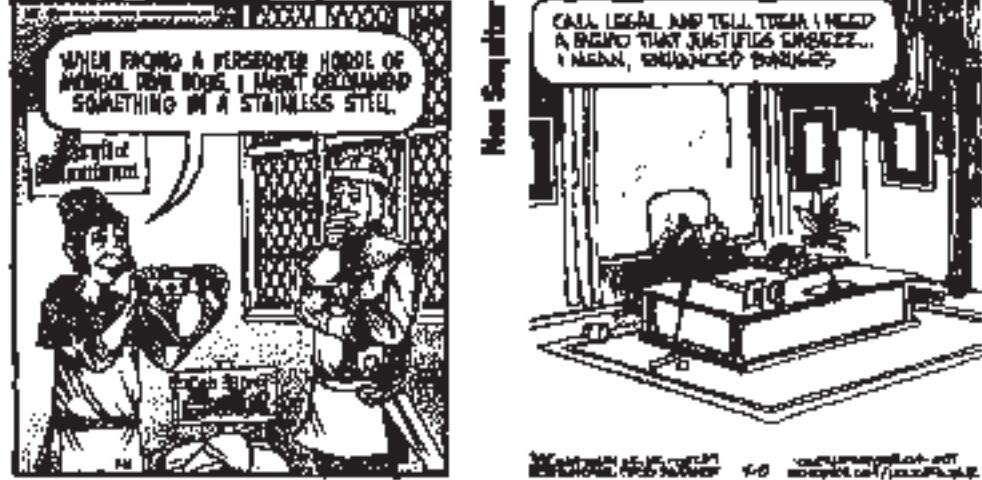
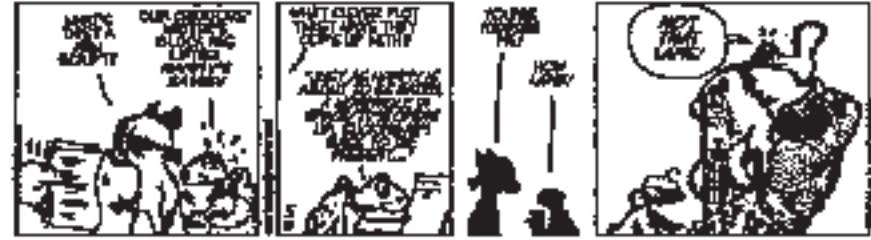
Speed Bump



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AFRTS Television ScheduleUpdated sports listings are available on AFN's Web site at <http://myafn.dodmedia.osd.mil/>

THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2009

	(AFN-ATLANTIC)	(AFN-FAMILY)	(AFN-MOVIE)	(AFN-NEWS)	(AFN-PACIFIC)	(PENTAGON)	(SPECTRUM)	(AFN-SPORTS)	(XTRA)
9:00	CSI: Miami "Shock"	The Wonder Pets!	Movie "Griffin and Phoenix" (2006, Romance)	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	The View	Recon	Mad About You	(8:00) Sports	(8:00) Sports
9:30		Little Einsteins	Dermot Mulroney, Amanda Peet, Sarah Paulson.	Hannity	State Dept Briefing	Living Single			
10:00	Oprah Winfrey	Peep-Big World		Dr. Phil	Fit For Duty	Guiding Light			
10:30		Curious George		Anderson Cooper 360	Audience	AFN Europe Report			
11:00	Dr. Phil	Little Einsteins	Movie "That Thing You Do!" (1996) Tom Everett Scott. Small-time rockers hit it big with a catchy single.	Judge Alex	The Grill Sergeants	E! News			
11:30		The Wonder Pets!		Everybody-Raymond	Fit For Duty	The Daily 10			
12:00	CBS Evening News	Super Why!	Scott. Small-time rockers hit it big with a catchy single.	Special Report With Bret Baier	Access Hollywood	Battleground	Star Trek "Journey to Babel"		
12:30	ESPN News	Go, Diego, Go!		Judge Judy	Around the Services		Reba "Roll With It"		
13:00	Prime News Tonight	Blue's Clues	Movie "The Adventures of Baron Munchausen" (1989, Fantasy) John Neville, Eric Idle, Sarah Polley.	Campbell Brown: No Bias, No Bull	The Young and the Restless	Briefing Encore	Girlfriends (Part 1 of 2)		
13:30		Bear in House		Your World With Neil Cavuto	General Hospital	Downrange			
14:00	NBC Nightly News	Sesame Street			AFN Europe Report	Emeril Live	SportsCenter		
14:30	World News-Gibson				Balad and Beyond				
15:00	Sesame Street	Funnest Home Videos	(:15) Movie "Uptown Girls" (2003) Brittany Murphy. A carefree woman becomes a nanny to an upright girl.	The Rachel Maddow Show	Days of our Lives	Fit For Duty	Design on a Dime	SportsCenter	
15:30		Planet's Funnest Animals			Battleground	Battleground	Decorating Cents		
16:00	The View	(3:50) Pokémon		Around the Services	Oprah Winfrey	The Grill Sergeants	Ice Road Truckers "Big Blizzard"		
16:30		(:40) Zatch Bell		Tavis Smiley	Wheel of Fortune	Around the Services	King of the Hill		
17:00	Dr. Phil	The Fairly OddParents	E! Entertainment Specials	Nightly Business Report	Jeanie! Downrange	King of the Hill	That '70s Show		
17:30		Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles		Nightline	World News-Gibson	Week-Pentagon	Daily Show-Jon Stewart		
18:00	Judge Alex	SpongeBob SquarePants	What It Takes	The O'Reilly Factor	Around the Services	The American Veteran	The Colbert Report		
18:30	Everybody-Raymond	Hannah Montana	Entertainment Tonight	Countdown With Keith Olbermann	King of the Hill	Briefing Encore	American Idol Contestant		
19:00	Access Hollywood	Just Jordan	Movie "The Messengers" (2007, Horror) Kristen Stewart, Dylan McDermott.	Today	(:25) The Simpsons	Fit For Duty	faces elimination.		
19:30	Judge Judy	The Naked Brothers Band			Extreme Makeover: Home Edition "Frisch Family"	Battleground	America's Next Top Model		
20:00	The Young and the Restless	Made A social outcast.				Recon Revisited			
20:30									
21:00	General Hospital	Everybody Hates Chris	(:45) Movie "Van Helsing" (2004, Fantasy) Hugh Jackman, Kate Beckinsale.	Today	House "Painless"	Around the Services	Burn Notice "Sins of Omission"		
21:30		The Cosby Show				Pacific Report	Pacific Report		
22:00	Days of our Lives	Degrassi: TNG				Briefing Encore	Seinfeld "The Voice"		
22:30		Strange Days	A monster hunter battles creatures in Transylvania.		Jay Leno	Recon	Friends		
23:00	Oprah Winfrey	Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman	(:05) Movie "Misery" (1990, Horror) James Caan.	Newsroom	Army Newswatch	Daily Show-Jon Stewart			
23:30		"Cooper vs. Quinn"			Late Show-Letterman	Downrange	The Colbert Report		

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2009

00:00	Wheel of Fortune	SpongeBob SquarePants	(11:05) Movie "Misery" (1990) James Caan, Kathy Bates.	MSNBC Live	Late Show-Letterman	This Week in the Pentagon	Late Night With Jimmy Fallon	(10:00) Sports	X Play
00:30	Jeopardy!	Hannah Montana		Happening Now	The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson	Fit For Duty	The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson		Futurama
1:00	Headline News	Just Jordan	(12:55) Movie "Primal Fear" (1996) Richard Gere. A hotshot attorney defends an altar boy accused of murder.		Judge Judy	The American Veteran	The American Veteran		The Simpsons "Pygmoelian"
1:30	ATS/AFN Report	The Naked Brothers Band			Newsroom	CSI: Miami "Rampage"	Around the Services		Family Guy
2:00	King of the Hill	Made "Mr. Chelmsford High School" A social outcast.				Downrange	Pirate Master		The Hills
2:30	(:25) The Simpsons					All Hands TV			Life of Ryan
3:00	Extreme Makeover: Home Edition "Frisch Family"	Everybody Hates Chris	(2:55) Movie "The Messengers" (2007, Horror) Kristen Stewart, Dylan McDermott.	MSNBC Live	Oprah Winfrey	Recon Revisited	Medium "The Darkness Is Light Enough"		The Real World
3:30		The Cosby Show		Studio B With Shepard Smith	Dr. Phil	State Dept Briefing	Seinfeld "The Voice"		Real World -- Road Rules Challenge
4:00	House "Painless"	Degrassi: Next Generation	(:40) Movie "Van Helsing" (2004, Fantasy) Hugh Jackman, Kate Beckinsale. A monster hunter battles creatures in Transylvania.	The Situation Room With Wolf Blitzer	Final Score	Around the Services	Friends		College Football Live
4:30		Strange Days-Blake Holey		Glenn Beck	Good Morning America	Downrange	Kiana's Flex Appeal		Best Damn Sports Show Period
5:00	Headline News	Teletubbies				Around the Services	NFL Live		
5:30	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Barney & Friends				Pacific Report	Denise Austin's Getting Fit		
6:00		Sesame Street				Battleground	Take Home Chef		
6:30	Late Show With David Letterman	Bear in the Big Blue House				Recon	Rachael's Vacation		
7:00							FitNation		
7:30	The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson	Blue's Clues							MTV Hits Playlist
8:00		Dora the Explorer							
8:30	Judge Judy	What It Takes							
9:00	CSI: Miami "Rampage"	Entertainment Tonight							
9:30		Movie "Mulan II" (2004, Adventure) Voices of Ming-Na, B.D. Wong, Mark Mosesley.							
10:00	Oprah Winfrey	Peep-Big World							
10:30		Curious George							
11:00	Dr. Phil	Higglytown Heroes	(:45) Movie "Pretty Woman" (1990, Romance-Comedy) Richard Gere, Julia Roberts. A corporate raider hires a hooker to act as a business escort.	Anderson Cooper 360	Judge Alex	Sun City Soldier	E! News		
11:30		LazyTown			Everybody Loves Raymond	Fit For Duty	The Daily 10		
12:00	CBS Evening News	Handy Manny		Special Report With Bret Baier	Access Hollywood	Battleground	Star Trek "The Trouble With Tribbles"		
12:30	ESPN News	Dora the Explorer			Judge Judy	Around the Services	Reba "The Break Up"		
13:00	Prime News Tonight	Blue's Clues			Campbell Brown: No Bias, No Bull	Briefing Encore	Girlfriends "The Wedding"		
13:30		Bear in the Big Blue House			Your World With Neil Cavuto	General Hospital	AFN Europe Report		
14:00	NBC Nightly News	Sesame Street				Recon Revisited	Emeril Live	SportsCenter	
14:30	World News-Gibson								
15:00	Sesame Street	Funnest Home Videos							
15:30		Planet's Funnest Animals							
16:00	The View	(3:50) Pokémon							
16:30		(:40) Zatch Bell							
17:00	Dr. Phil	Behind the Scenes							
17:30		The Big Tease							
18:00	Judge Alex	What It Takes							
18:30	Everybody Loves Raymond	SpongeBob SquarePants	Entertainment Tonight						
19:00	Access Hollywood	Rugrats Mother	Movie "Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home" (1986, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy, Catherine Hicks.	Countdown With Keith Olbermann	The Biggest Loser	Briefing Encore	Criss Angel Mindfreak		
19:30	Judge Judy	Bugs Bunny's Mother's Day		Today		Fit For Duty	My Name Is Earl		
20:00	The Young and the Restless	iCarly "Stakeout"				Battleground	The Amazing Race 14		
20:30		Wizards of Waverly Place				Recon Revisited			
21:00	General Hospital	Just Jordan							
21:30		Everybody Hates Chris							
22:00	Days of our Lives	Heroes	"Nothing to Hide"	Today					
22:30									
23:00	Oprah Winfrey	Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman	"Cooper vs. Quinn"	America's Newsroom	Pacific Report	Around the Services	ER "The Chicago Way"		
23:30		"Cooper vs. Quinn"	"The Undiscovered Country"		The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Pacific Report	Seinfeld "The Serenity Now"		

News

Sports

Weather

Enter city or zip code: [Input Field]
Location: [Default Location] (5° 15' N)

Military News

Sports

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- Free ads are valid for 21 days and on a space available basis only.
- Please spell out each word. No abbreviations.
- Item prices must be listed.
- Free ads are available for private parties only. For information on commercial or business ads, please call 229-3276.
- Stars and Stripes reserves the right to re-classify, rewrite or reject any ad.

Name _____ Phone _____ Installation _____
 Address _____
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Submit coupon to: Stars and Stripes, Classified Ad Dept., Unit 45002, APO AP 96337-5002 Fax DSN 229-3214, CML 03-3423-8257, E-Mail classifieds@pstripes.osd.mil

Announcements 040

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Autos for Sale 141

Yokota, Japan - 1995 Toyota Soarer w/sunroof Cold AC, CD player and navigation system with 4 inch screen. Power steering, automatic transmission, auto windows/doors. Clean inside and out. JCI until 2010 totally worth the price a steal at \$2500. Please call Antonio or Chiquita at 904-229-0417 or e-mail at Docious78@yahoo.com or chiquitamack@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - 1992 Ford 4Runner. Please contact 090-1970-1000 for a test drive. JCI until April 09 asking \$1500. Please call 801-983-0652 or email a192chico@hotmail.com

Yokota, Japan - 1993 Nissan Skyline GTS-T (Turbo) w/ Extras! Nissan Skyline Turbo, with flip out TV/DVD, two monitors in the back. Direct IPod adapter, complete eclipse sound system, cold A/C, aftermarket cold air intake, aftermarket blowout valve, just had a tune up this month, tires are 3 months old, good until November. Asking \$2700 OBO. Please call 090-5682-6699 or email nardone311@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - 1994 Nissan Skyline 5-5-speed Transmission all weather tires & rims A/C & Heater work great! AM/FM stereo Car runs great! JCI until Dec. 2010. Asking \$3000. OBO Call Eduardo or Sarah @ 210-881-4403

Yokota, Japan - 1994 Red Toyota Celica for sale. Very clean and well-maintained by non-smoking owner 103,000 Km (64,000 miles), automatic transmission, A/C, power windows and AM/FM/cassette Stereo all good. JCI until May 2011 and 2005. Road Tax paid. Portable GPS included (US & Japanese maps). Asking \$2500. Please call 313-347-0283 or email nicole.alice.yakota@aamil.com

Yokota, Japan - 1995 Toyota Lucida new price! We are leaving yokota. Great van! Seats 8 great, clean non smoking, sunroofs. Great on gas! Call -720-257-6818 allied 8-0-3-6-9-2-0-3-1-6 c e l l 940-432-0302 or email eliasmar@yahoo.com JCI until Feb. 2010 asking \$800

Yokota, Japan - 1992 Mark II For sale \$2200 OBO JCI good until Mar. Great car has 100K in excellent condition. Has A/C, Power Steering, CD player, Connections to Subwoofer, plenum, Trunk speaker, good until March 2011. Read Tax paid until March 2011. Asking \$2200 OBO If interested gives me a call at 904-229-0417 or emails me at Docious78@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - 1992 Nissan Skyline 4 door CD A/C heat pw windows locks runs great. 100,000 km. Asking \$550. Call 480-302-4444 or email mxcr252002@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - 1992 Mark II Good condition. Asking \$1800. OBO. Call 090-250-0000

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Yokota, Japan - Complete Toddler Bedroom Set. Excellent condition. Under 1 year old. Set includes: Solid wood toddler bed with mattress, bed rails, bottom and top sheet, and matching blanket and pillow case. Solid wood toy box with matching design and lift top lid (pinch free construction). Matching book shelf and area. Solid wood toy box with matching design and lift top lid (pinch free construction). We would love to take this with us back to the States, but we just can't fit it. A value of over \$300 asking only \$150. Please call 090-8478-1050 or email japanmissions@gmail.com		Yokota, Japan - For sale Hitachi AC/heater with all attachment. Used 1 season. \$300.00. Call 225-8585-77769, cell 080-3467-8034.		Yokota, Japan - Selling specialized Nintendo Wii. Like new. Comes with 2 controllers, 1 game, Mario Hero and Rock Band full-band (raffish) with perfectly centered drums. Has INCREDIBLE amount of DLC. Asking \$710. Will negotiate! E-mail sthecomicbookguru@yahoo.com		Yokota, Japan - Charbroll Performance Series 4 burner w/ 1 additional on top, comes w/ cover and a new large full gas tank valued at \$36.95 w/o gas at the BXtra. All burners fully functional, cleans up very good Asking \$60. Please call 0710-3731349 or email tadtlongshake@yahoo.com		Yokota, Japan - 2 FREE Female Cats Shy-Ann and Natalia are sisters. They are 6 years young and have been micro-chipped, front-de-clawed, and spayed. They are indoor cats and have not been allowed to be outside. They are very clean and loving. They have been a part of our family since they were 6 weeks old. If you are interested, please call me for more details. They are available immediately and will go to the base shelter by May 6th if no home is found. They are current on all shots and have records at the base vet clinic. Food and toys included. Kennels are included. They must go together! Please call 713-490-3033 or email gmmvv@aol.com		Yokota, Japan - Selling Saltwater Aquarium Set up 50 Gallon glass tank with over flow already drilled. Protein skimmer, return pump, water heater-32w X 4 light set up Also with the fish Snowflake eel 1 Picasso Trigger and 2 Clownfish Everything you need to set up a saltwater tank. It's set up right now if you want to see it. Asking \$350. Please e-mail mahimahis_0@hotmail.com		Zama - Sigma 50-500mm f/4-6.3 EX DG APO HSM for Nikon DSLR. Excellent A+++++ condition, no scratches, no blemishes, nothing wrong. Very useful 10x zoom. Comes with lens hood, padded case (no strap for case), lens strap, and UV filter. No box and no warranty card. Asking \$950. Regular retail is \$1200. Contact me at mahimahis_0@hotmail.com		Yokota, Japan - Ping Clone Golf Clubs Head/Handed set regular steel shaft. 30" W/over size good start set. Set is in good conditions. Asking \$60. Eduardo at 210-881-4403																																																																																																																																															
Yokota, Japan - Fellowes Paper Shredder. Small Fan and Home Vacufier stand fan. 3-speed oscillates \$10. Upright vacuum with attachments nice condition \$20; paper shredder works well \$10. Please call 6143584904 or email garyschwamm@hotmail.com		Yokota, Japan - 60 GB PS3 backward compatible with 11 games plus WH 60 Gig Backward compatible PS3 with 2 controllers and games in the pictures. Plus rock band with guitar, drums, and microphone! Asking \$60. Please call 614-358-4809 or email tkvan6@hotmail.com		Yokota, Japan - Fence North Housing Fence for small yard. Perfect for keeping pets in the yard. 3 yrs old. Good Shape. 10' x 24'. It is the last left in North Housing. We paid \$1,000. Would need you to pull and transport. Asking \$400. Please call 214-261-6361 or email mmeeley@armed-svc.com		Yokota, Japan - Large Fence and Awning Fits up to a 4 bedroom you take it down. You can have it on May 1st! Located on the west side please email or call to see or for more information. Please call 1-313-347-1017 or email grapdr@aol.com asking \$600		Yokota, Japan - Female Cat Female calico short hair cat. 2 years old. Spayed, front-de-clawed, micro chipped, shots up to date, indoors only. She is happy to keep to herself, but will enjoy curling up with you on the couch or in bed. Gets along with other animals on site, gets familiar with them. Ok with children, but preferably older children. We have a 1 year old who adores her, but we aren't around much to give her all the attention she needs. We are also PCIS ing soon and are facing difficulties with the travel arrangements. Larger than a standard dish, bed, and food included. Please call 090-6477-0979 or email aussiedolphin@hotmail.com		Yokota, Japan - Canon camera 4. Sale Digital Cameras/Power Shot SD1000: Slim, stylish 7.1 Megapixel Digital ELPH with 3x Optical Zoom lens Chic modern minimalism in the ELPH's classic Box & Circle design in two color variations to suit your personal style DIGIC 7 Image Processor with improved Face Detection Technology and Intelligent Eye Correction for sharper images and improved functionality Vivid, high resolution 2.5 inch Pure Color LCD with scratch resistant anti reflection coating for easy on camera viewing ISO 1600 and High ISO Auto to reduce noise and expand low-light shooting capabilities Five movie modes including 30 fps VGA, Time Lapse and Fast Frame Rate Print/Share Button for easy direct printing and downloading, plus 1D Photo Print and Movie Print with select Asking \$1450 OBO Please call 1-214-261-6424 or email strbiggs1985@yahoo.com		House for rent in WA. Close to Ft Lewis, McChord AFB, and Madigan Army Medical Center. In the desirable Sunrise neighborhood of Puyallup. 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath with view of Mt Rainier. \$1350 a month. If interested send email to dockeyr@hotmail.com		Yokota - Treadmill speed to 10 MPH, incline to 10%, Step Counter, Fan, tracks speed, time, distance, calories burned, pulse, heart rate, incline, pace, airsoft cushion deck. Fold Up New \$899, sell \$200 263-7194																																																																																																																																															
Yokota, Japan - Entertainment center able to hold up to a 36" TV. 2 shelves shelves, DVD player, video games, or like. Hold movies. Asking \$60 matching side table - asking \$25 asking \$80 for both. Please contact me at T bone281@me.com or at 090-1395-4410		Yokota, Japan - Washing Machine - Overhead Rack Sanyo 4.2kg Washing Machine + Overhead Rack Used but in good condition. Standard Japanese Sanyo. Some slight scratches and minor dents on outside, but looks like a champ. New hoses. Overhead rack has two storage racks, and one clothes line hanging bar. Rack can adjust width to accommodate different size machines or laundry space. The rack itself cost \$40 and the washing machine was \$120. Asking only \$40 for the entire set. Please call 090-8478-1050 or email mae-mail japanmissions@gmail.com		Yokota, Japan - Fence North Housing Aawning for sale. Complete with gutter and downspout. 3 yrs old. Excellent shape you will need to take down and move. 1051D North. Housing Asking \$500. Please call 214-261-6361 or email mmeeley@armed-svc.com		Yokota, Japan - Female Cat Female calico short hair cat. 2 years old. Spayed, front-de-clawed, micro chipped, shots up to date, indoors only. She is happy to keep to herself, but will enjoy curling up with you on the couch or in bed. Gets along with other animals on site, gets familiar with them. Ok with children, but preferably older children. We have a 1 year old who adores her, but we aren't around much to give her all the attention she needs. We are also PCIS ing soon and are facing difficulties with the travel arrangements. Larger than a standard dish, bed, and food included. Please call 090-6477-0979 or email aussiedolphin@hotmail.com		Yokota, Japan - FREE HAMSTERS I have 2 hamsters that I need to give away. We do not have the time for them anymore. They are about 4 months old, they are sisters. They will come with a 2 level cage, food and litter. Everything you need for them. Please call 407-373-1368		Yokota, Japan - Panasonic DMC-FZ50 10.1MP Digital Camera with 12x Comes with camera bag two batteries and charger 1 SD card 1gb and cleaning kit for tech details click the link below: Asking \$500 obo Please call 1-214-261-6424 or email strbiggs1985@yahoo.com		Townhome for Rent: 3bedrm, 2.5 bath, 2 car garage w/ A/C & Humidifier near Pete & Schriever AFB's \$995 Call Linda Martin at Caravan Properties at 713-470-0240 (MST) www.caravanproperties.com		Zama - Treadmill speed to 10 MPH, incline to 10%, Step Counter, Fan, tracks speed, time, distance, calories burned, pulse, heart rate, incline, pace, airsoft cushion deck. Fold Up New \$899, sell \$200 263-7194																																																																																																																																															
Yokota, Japan - Large living room sofa for sale great condition. Light brown/gold velour is compatible with many color schemes. Attractive design, buyer arranges to move this sofa. Asking \$100 OBO Please call 023-4711		Yokota, Japan - Oriental bar take a look! Oriental bar from the Asian bazaar Paid 1300 here a spinning glass holder and a removable wine rack! Asking \$800. Please email tkvan6@hotmail.com		Yokota, Japan - Large Fence and Awning Fits up to a 4 bedroom you take it down. You can have it on May 1st! Located on the west side please email or call to see or for more information. Please call 1-313-347-1017 or email grapdr@aol.com asking \$600		Yokota, Japan - Female Cat Female calico short hair cat. 2 years old. Spayed, front-de-clawed, micro chipped, shots up to date, indoors only. She is happy to keep to herself, but will enjoy curling up with you on the couch or in bed. Gets along with other animals on site, gets familiar with them. Ok with children, but preferably older children. We have a 1 year old who adores her, but we aren't around much to give her all the attention she needs. We are also PCIS ing soon and are facing difficulties with the travel arrangements. Larger than a standard dish, bed, and food included. Please call 090-6477-0979 or email aussiedolphin@hotmail.com		Yokota, Japan - FREE HAMSTERS I have 2 hamsters that I need to give away. We do not have the time for them anymore. They are about 4 months old, they are sisters. They will come with a 2 level cage, food and litter. Everything you need for them. Please call 407-373-1368		Yokota, Japan - Panasonic DMC-FZ50 10.1MP Digital Camera with 12x Comes with camera bag two batteries and charger 1 SD card 1gb and cleaning kit for tech details click the link below: Asking \$500 obo Please call 1-214-261-6424 or email strbiggs1985@yahoo.com		Yokota - Treadmill speed to 10 MPH, incline to 10%, Step Counter, Fan, tracks speed, time, distance, calories burned, pulse, heart rate, incline, pace, airsoft cushion deck. Fold Up New \$899, sell \$200 263-7194		Yokota - Brand New Kawasaki Angle Grinder 4-1/1000 RPM .5-amps -2 position reversible side handle -spindle lock for quick and easy blade change -sliding switch for extended run applications 3 year warranty asking \$400 Jason home 713-490-0578 cell 080-3251-9808 or email jasonstacieleal@hotmail.com																																																																																																																																															
Yokota, Japan - Oriental bar take a look! Oriental bar from the Asian bazaar Paid 1300 here a spinning glass holder and a removable wine rack! Asking \$800. Please email tkvan6@hotmail.com		Yokota, Japan - Household Items 560		Yokota, Japan - Girl twin size floral Pottery Barn quilt; pretty mix of pastel colors on white background; barely used, like new condition; paid \$175, asking \$80 OBO. Call 264-7631.		Yokota, Japan - Large Fence and Awning for sale. Complete with gutter and downspout. 3 yrs old. Excellent shape you will need to take down and move. 1051D North. Housing Asking \$500. Please call 214-261-6361 or email mmeeley@armed-svc.com		Yokota, Japan - Adorable 11 year old female mix of Husky & Schnauzer. 30 lbs. Silver hair, spayed, good with kids & dogs. Healthy. Needs to find a loving home ASAP. USSKITTYTALK-YOKOSUKA@GMAIL.COM		Yokota, Japan - FREE HAMSTERS I have 2 hamsters that I need to give away. We do not have the time for them anymore. 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SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

Friday

AFN-Sports, 2 a.m.—Golf: PGA. The Players Championship, first round.

AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.—NBA playoffs: Eastern Conference semifinals, Game 2, Atlanta at Cleveland.

AFN-Xtra, 9 a.m.—NHL playoffs: Western Conference semifinals, Game 3, Vancouver at Chicago.

AFN-Xtra, 11:30 a.m.—NHL playoffs: Western Conference semifinals, Game 4, Detroit at Anaheim.

AFN-Sports, 4 p.m.—MLB: Philadelphia at N.Y. Mets (dld).

AFN-Sports, 8 p.m.—NBA playoffs: Eastern Conference semifinals, Game 2, Atlanta at Cleveland (dld).

Saturday

AFN-Sports, 2 a.m.—Golf: PGA. The Players Championship, second round.

AFN-Sports, 8 a.m.—NBA playoffs: Eastern Conference semifinals, Game 3, Boston at Orlando.

AFN-Xtra, 8 a.m.—NHL playoffs: Eastern Conference semifinals, Game 4, Washington at Pittsburgh.

AFN-Pacific, 10 a.m.—MLB: Florida at Colorado.

AFN-Sports, 10:30 a.m.—NBA playoffs: Eastern Conference semifinals, Game 3, L.A. Lakers at Houston.

AFN-Xtra, 10:30 a.m.—NHL playoffs: Eastern Conference semifinals, Game 4, Boston at Carolina (joined in progress).

AFN-Xtra, 11 a.m.—MLB: San Francisco at L.A. Dodgers.

AFN-Sports, 4 p.m.—MLB: Atlanta at Philadelphia.

AFN-Sports, 8 p.m.—NBA playoffs: Eastern Conference semifinals, Game 3, Boston at Orlando (dld).

AFN-Sports, midnight—NBA playoffs: Western Conference semifinals, Game 3, L.A. Lakers at Houston (dld).

All times are Japan and Korea Standard; (dld) indicates delayed broadcast. All listings are subject to change. Visit www.myafn.net for more information.

Pro soccer

MLS

Eastern Conference						
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
D.C. United	3	1	3	12	11	9
Toronto FC	3	2	3	10	10	10
Chicago	2	0	5	11	13	10
Kansas City	3	3	1	9	9	8
New England	2	2	2	8	5	11
Columbus	0	2	5	5	8	12
New York	1	5	2	5	5	10

Western Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Chivas USA	6	1	1	19	11	3
Seattle FC	4	2	1	13	10	4
Colorado	3	2	2	11	10	8
Real Salt Lake	3	3	0	9	12	8
Houston	2	2	2	8	6	5
Los Angeles	1	1	4	7	7	7
San Jose	1	4	2	5	7	7
FC Dallas	1	5	1	4	7	14

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Wednesday's games

D.C. United at Kansas City

Los Angeles at Real Salt Lake

Friday's game

San Jose at New York

Saturday's games

Kansas City at Columbus

Toronto FC at D.C. United

New England at Chicago

FC Dallas at Houston

Real Salt Lake at Chivas USA

Sunday's game

Los Angeles at Seattle FC

WPS

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Los Angeles	3	1	1	10	6	2
Boston	3	2	0	9	8	8
Chicago	2	0	2	8	6	1
FC Gold Pride	2	2	1	7	7	7
Washington	1	2	2	5	9	12
Saint Louis	0	2	2	2	3	6
Sky Blue FC	0	2	2	2	1	4

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Saturday's game

FC Gold Pride at Saint Louis

Sunday's game

Boston at Los Angeles

Sky Blue FC at Chicago

Through April 26

Trn Money

1. Lorena Ochoa	6	\$625,205
2. Ji Yai Shin	6	\$470,895
3. Cristie Kerr	7	\$381,624
4. Angela Stanford	5	\$374,021
5. Yani Tseng	7	\$366,447
6. Karrie Webb	5	\$348,546
7. Suzann Pettersen	7	\$338,301
8. Brittany Lincicome	5	\$310,439
9. Pat Hurst	6	\$267,509
10. Na Yeon Choi	7	\$263,210
11. Paula Creamer	6	\$262,557
12. Katherine Hull	6	\$249,869
13. Kristy McPherson	7	\$249,780
14. Angela Park	5	\$236,350
15. Brittany Lang	7	\$204,556
16. Lindsey Wright	6	\$184,874
17. Hee Young Park	6	\$180,971
18. Song-Hye Kim	6	\$175,667
19. Sun Young Yoo	6	\$170,037
20. Eun-Hee Je	6	\$161,127
21. Inbee Park	4	\$157,255
22. Michelle Wie	4	\$142,756
23. Jeongeun Lee	7	\$136,217
24. Ai Miyazato	6	\$135,680
25. Jane Park	7	\$119,534
26. Wendy Ward	5	\$104,329
27. Seon Hwa Lee	7	\$100,576
28. Stacy Prammanasudh	7	\$97,889
29. Meagan Francelia	6	\$97,016
30. Christina Kim	6	\$93,046
31. Morgan Pressel	5	\$90,356
32. Helen Alfredsson	5	\$90,077
33. Jimin Kang	6	\$85,779
34. Teresa Lu	7	\$82,825
35. Si Ri Pak	6	\$80,971
36. Ji Young Oh	6	\$75,125
37. Nicole Castrale	6	\$66,414
38. Juli Inkster	6	\$64,506
39. Hee-Won Han	7	\$62,680
40. Meena Lee	7	\$62,610
41. Natalie Gulbis	6	\$62,609
42. Mi Hyun Kim	4	\$60,894
43. Sophie Gustafson	4	\$59,559
44. Michele Redman	6	\$58,842
45. Vicki Hurst	5	\$54,087
46. Momoko Ueda	4	\$52,252
47. Candie Kung	6	\$51,042
48. Heather Young	6	\$50,522
49. Laura Diaz	6	\$46,320
50. Alena Sharp	6	\$46,175

Through April 26

Trn Money

Through April 26

Report: Favre to meet with Vikings coach

QB to talk with Childress about another comeback

The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Just when Brett Favre looked to finally be out, the Minnesota Vikings could be pulling him back in.

Citing an anonymous source "with direct knowledge of the discussions between the two parties," ESPN reported Tuesday that Favre is scheduled to meet with Vikings coach Brad Childress later this week about a possible comeback with Minnesota.

Favre's agent, Bus Cook, did not immediately return a phone call to his Mississippi office left by The Associated Press.

Childress did not immediately return a message. A Vikings spokesman declined to comment on the report.

Both Favre and Cook have said this spring that Favre intends to stay retired. But Favre's statement after he was released by the New York Jets last week left the door open.

"At this time, I am retired and have no

intention of returning to football," he said.

Those three little words — "At this time" — set off rampant speculation that he was considering a second return to action.

Childress said Friday he had been too busy to concentrate on Favre, but did acknowledge the subject would soon be broached.

"We talk about everything," Childress said then, "from what's going on in the United States on the front page today.... We talk about everything, so yeah, I'm sure we'll talk about that."

It wouldn't be the first time.

Favre, 39, spent 16 seasons in Green Bay, retiring in 2008 after leading the Packers to the NFC title game. He changed his mind a few months later, which set up a long and messy soap opera that ultimately led to his trade to the Jets.

It was believed all along that Favre, after hearing Green Bay's plans to go with Aaron Rodgers at quarterback, wanted to come to NFC North rival Minnesota so he could exact some revenge on the Packers.

The Packers would have none of it. The team filed tampering charges against the Vikings, alleging improper contact between Favre and Vikings offensive coordinator Darrell Bevell, a friend of Favre's from his days as Green Bay's quarterbacks coach.

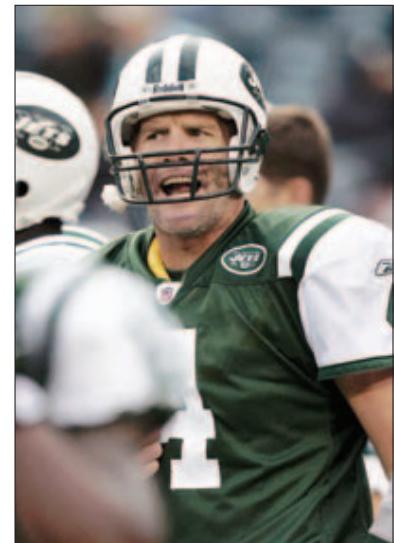
The league cleared the Vikings of all charges. Green Bay included in the trade to New York a clause that made it all but impossible for the Jets to turn around and ship Favre to the Vikings.

But when the Jets granted Favre his release last week, it made him a free agent who is eligible to sign with any team he chooses. And many experts say the Vikings are a quarterback away from being a legitimate Super Bowl contender.

With unproven veterans Sage Rosenfels and Tarvaris Jackson slated to duke it out in training camp for the starting job, it would come as no surprise that the Vikings would at least consider adding a three-time MVP who holds the career records in every major statistical passing category, including interceptions.

But the move would not come without questions.

After an impressive start to his first and only season in New York — he threw a career-high six touchdown passes in a victory over the Arizona Cardinals in Week 4 — Favre's production dipped considerably over the final five games while he dealt with shoulder and biceps injuries. He threw nine interceptions in that span and the Jets stumbled to a 1-4 finish.



MEL EVANS/AP

Former New York Jets quarterback Brett Favre is reportedly set to meet this week with Minnesota Vikings coach Brad Childress about another return to the NFL.

NHL scoreboard

Playoffs

CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS (Best-of-seven)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Boston vs. Carolina

Boston 4, Carolina 1
Carolina 3, Boston, 0, series tied 1-1
Wednesday: Boston at Carolina
Friday: Boston at Carolina
Sunday: Carolina at Boston
Tuesday, May 12: Boston at Carolina*
Thursday, May 14: Carolina at Boston*

Washington vs. Pittsburgh

Washington 3, Pittsburgh 2
Washington 4, Pittsburgh 3, Washington leads series 2-0

Wednesday:

Washington at Pittsburgh

Friday:

Washington at Pittsburgh*

Saturday:

Pittsburgh at Washington

Monday:

Washington at Pittsburgh

Wednesday, May 13:

Pittsburgh at Washington

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Detroit vs. Anaheim

Detroit 3, Anaheim 2

Anaheim 4, Detroit 3, 3OT

Tuesday:

Anaheim 2, Detroit 1, Anaheim

Wednesday:

Detroit at Anaheim

Thursday:

Anaheim at Detroit

Tuesday, May 12:

Detroit at Anaheim*

Thursday, May 14:

Anaheim at Detroit

*If necessary

Tuesday

Canucks 3, Blackhawks 1

Vancouver 1 2 0-3
Chicago 0 1 0-2

First Period

—1, Vancouver, Raymond 1

(Kesler, Tkachuk), 15:34.

Second Period

—2, Vancouver, Bernier 2

(Edler, D.Sedin), 1:00 (pp), 3, Vancouver,

H.Sedin 4 (Edler), 8:40, 4, Chicago, Campbell 2 (Hawtin, Keith), 11:09 (pp).

Shots on Goal

Vancouver 7-7-7-21.

Chicago 7-7-10-24.

Power-play opportunities

Vancouver 1 of 4; Chicago 1 of 5.

Goals

Vancouver, Luongo 6-1-0 (24

shots-23 saves); Chicago, Khabibulin 5-

4-0 (21-18).

A—22,659 (20,500). T—2:25.

Ducks 2, Red Wings 1

Detroit 0 1 0-1
Anaheim 1 1 0-2

First Period

—1, Anaheim, Selanne 3

(Carter), 12:49.

Second Period

—2, Anaheim, Niedermayer 2 (Getzleff, Pronger), 8:16

(pp), 3, Detroit, Zetterberg 4 (Samuelsson, Hudler), 14:20 (pp).

Shots on Goal

Detroit 11-17-18-46.

Anaheim 14-6-3-23.

Power-play opportunities

Detroit 1 of 5; Anaheim 1 of 4.

Goals

Detroit, Osgood 5-2-0 (23

shots-21 saves); Anaheim, Hiller 6-3-0

(46-45).

A—17,174 (17,174). T—2:35.

NHL playoffs roundup

Luongo, Canucks slow Blackhawks

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — It's a hockey tradition in Chicago. The crowd roars during the national anthem, reaching ear-splitting decibels and creating a frenetic atmosphere to start the game.

For the Chicago Blackhawks, the boost didn't last long. Instead, they fell behind — as they have in all three games of the Western Conference semifinal series against the Vancouver Canucks. And this time, they couldn't catch up.

Roberto Luongo made the early lead stand Tuesday night and the Canucks forged a 3-1 victory to grab a 2-1 lead in the series.

"You can't do it in this league. We're not going to come back on one of the best goaltenders in the league," said defenseman Brian Campbell, who had Chicago's lone goal on a power play. "We've got to come out and be ready, not take penalties. We've got to learn pretty quick or we're not going to hang around too long."

Game 4 is back at the United Center on Thursday night before the series returns to Vancouver for Game 5 on Saturday night.

After surrendering eight goals in the first two games of the series at Vancouver, Luongo finished with 23 saves Tuesday, including a spectacular stop on Dave Bolland when the Blackhawks had a power play early in the third period.

Campbell's slapper from the high circle on a power play cut the lead to 3-1, and a crowd that had been quiet for most of the night quickly erupted, hoping that another comeback was on its way.

But Luongo didn't let it happen.



Detroit Red Wings right wing Marian Hossa's potential game-tying goal past Anaheim Ducks goalie Jonas Hiller, left, was overruled as the play was whistled dead before the purported goal during the third period in Anaheim, Calif., on Tuesday. The Ducks won 2-1.

The Blackhawks had rallied from 3-0 and 2-0 deficits in Games 1 and 2 and earned a split. Luongo also made a nice stop on Jonathan Toews with about 10 minutes left when the Blackhawks captain tried to stuff the puck in front of the net.

"When we did make a few mistakes in the third period, Roberto made the saves he had to make," Canucks coach Alain Vigneault said.

Even without versatile defenseman Sami Salo, sidelined by an injury, Vancouver kept the speedy Blackhawks from getting up and down the ice like they did in Game 2 when they pulled out a 6-3 victory.

"Without a doubt it was a very emotional moment for us as a group," Vigneault said. "He played a really good game for somebody who has been out for some time. He really helped us."

Pyatt said he was glad to get back on the ice.

"I was a little nervous before the game. I wasn't even sure I was going to play," he said. "I felt OK. There was a lot of adrenaline flowing."

Mason Raymond scored for the Canucks late in the first and Steve

Bernier's goal during a power play early in the second put Vancouver up by two. Henrik Sedin's fourth goal of the playoffs made it 3-0 in the second.

"I just think we came out flat," Chicago defenseman Duncan Keith said. "They had the jump on us. It's frustrating that way to let them get the first goal. You can't come back every game."

The Blackhawks will try to figure out how to manufacture a quicker start when they regroup for practice Wednesday.

"We weren't crisp with the puck. We didn't get it deep or get it to the net," Chicago coach Joel Quenneville said. "I didn't like anything about our game."

Ducks 2, Red Wings 1: At Anaheim, Calif., Teemu Selanne scored in the first period, Scott Niedermayer added a goal in the second, and Jonas Hiller made 18 of his 45 saves in the third for the Ducks, who grabbed a 2-1 lead over Detroit in the Western Conference semifinal series.

After building the first multiple-goal lead of the series, Hiller and the Ducks survived a third-period barrage by the defending Stanley Cup champion Red Wings.

Detroit nearly tied the game with 1:09 remaining when Marian Hossa dived to knock in a loose puck in front of Hiller, but referee Brad Watson lost sight of the puck and whistled the play dead before the purported goal.

The Red Wings got a goal from Henrik Zetterberg in the second period and had a pair of power plays in the final 9:35, but couldn't tie it.

Game 4 is in Anaheim on Thursday before the series returns to Detroit for Game 5 on Sunday.

NBA playoffs

Nuggets get it going at the end one more time

BY ARNIE STAPLETON
The Associated Press

DENVER — The Dallas Mavericks' plan to play with more hustle and muscle worked wonders until Jason Kidd's bad pass late in the third quarter dribbled back downcourt.

Instead of watching it go out of bounds, Chauncey Billups made a beeline for the ball. He beat Jason Terry to it, then whipped it to J.R. Smith under the basket for the go-ahead score.

Game over.

Denver didn't trail again after Smith's basket, which sparked the Nuggets' 117-105 rout Tuesday night that gave them a 2-0 lead in the best-of-seven series that shifts to Dallas this weekend.

"That was the key play of the game," Carmelo Anthony said. "He could've easily just let that ball go out of bounds. He chased it down, got J.R. the layup. We came down and we scored again and again and again. That play right there was the biggest play of the game."

Anthony scored 15 of his 25 points in the fourth quarter, including 10 in a 16-2 spurt the Nuggets used to start the quarter and break open a close game.

Billups said he never thought of just letting the ball go out of bounds or letting Terry beat him to it for a momentum-stuffing backcourt violation instead.

"Those are absolutely the kind of plays you've got to make," Billups said.

"If you don't make them, just try — 100 percent effort. That play in a strange sort of way kind of turned the game around because it told us, that this is kind of game it's going to be."

"We can't really get away from these guys tonight. At that point in the game, we've got to make the extra plays, try to get extra possessions. That was a big play."

And it was déjà vu for the Mavericks, who also collapsed in the fourth quarter of Game 1.

"I thought we were right there again like we were the other night and just things with this team can get out of hand quickly," said Dirk Nowitzki, who scored 35 points.

"They're so explosive. I think we kept the turnovers down but right there in that phase where they made their run, we had two or three costly ones and took two bad shots. The next thing you know, from a four-point lead it's 14. That's how explosive that team is. We've got to look at some stuff. It's a tough loss. We've got a while to sit on this one."

The series shifts to Dallas for Game 3 Saturday night, and the Mavericks hope they're going to be as good on their home court as the Nuggets were on theirs.

Nene scored 25, Smith had 21 and Billups 18 for the Nuggets, who won for the 15th consecutive time at the Pepsi Center, where they haven't lost since March 11.

The Mavericks are 17-1 at home since the All-Star break, but that one loss was to Denver.

The Mavericks face the daunting task of having to win four of five against the Nuggets, a team they're 0-6 against this season and one that is playing with so much confidence and efficiency.

"They've held serve," Dallas coach Rick Carlisle said.

"We go back to Dallas and we've got to do the same. We've got a few days to regroup and work on some things."



Commissioner David Stern, presents the Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James with the 2008-2009 NBA Most Valuable Player trophy before the Tuesday night's playoff game against the Atlanta Hawks. James showed he deserved the award by scoring 34 points.

MARK DUNCAN/AP

Cavs: Stern praises LeBron

CAVS, FROM BACK PAGE

The Cavs weren't sure how the layoff would affect them.

"It was unbelievable how sharp we were," James said. "We just picked up where we left off."

Williams added 21 points for Cleveland, which became the first team since the 2004 Detroit Pistons to win each of its first five playoff games by double figures.

With the Cavs up by 21, James was pulled with 4:29 left — extra down time before Game 2 on Thursday night at Quicken Loans Arena, where the Cavaliers are 42-2.

Josh Smith scored 22 and Mike Bibby 19 for the Hawks, who needed seven games to get past Miami and are playing in the second round for the first time in 10 years. They weren't happy with their start in this series, going 9-for-30 and scoring just 28 points after halftime.

"It was very disappointing," Smith said. "We advanced to the next level in the postseason and it's kind of disheartening not to be able to play and bring the effort in the second half."

James was presented with his MVP trophy before the game by commissioner David Stern, who complimented the 24-year-old superstar's selflessness, saying, "You led the team by playing team first." James did that for all 35 minutes on the floor Tuesday.

Stern's praise was nearly drowned out by more than 20,000 fans chanting "M-V-P!" in another salute to James, the first Cavaliers player to receive the award.

Not wanting to take part in Cleveland's celebration, the Hawks stayed in their locker room until after James addressed the crowd.

James was touched by the outpouring of love.

"It was a very emotional time for me," he said. Perhaps out of sync because of the layoff, the Cavs

were sluggish in the first half and didn't take control until the third quarter, when they outscored the Hawks 28-17. As usual, Cleveland relied on its defense to turn things around.

"I think the team knew and I knew the ceremony was going to happen, but we still had a game to play," James said. "We didn't want to rain in the ceremony by not preparing ourselves the best way to come out and play. We had some lapses in the first half, but we got it going in the third and fourth quarters and took care of the game."

Not long after James drew the foul on Johnson, Wally Szczerbiak moved his feet to take a charge, a defensive play that had Cavs coach Mike Brown dancing on the sideline as if it were a game-winning shot.

"No matter how much rust we have on our bones, we can still play defense," Brown said.

James had zero assists at halftime, a sign that Cleveland's offense wasn't in rhythm.

He finally set up Williams for a three-pointer and then another as the Cavs opened an 11-point lead in the third quarter. James then went on a nine-point run.

James arrived so early that he was on the floor shooting before the lights were fully turned on inside Quicken Loans Arena.

To a seat-shaking soundtrack that included Jay-Z and Snoop Dogg, James worked his way around the three-point line, dropping shot after shot off crisp passes from Cavs assistant coach Chris Jent — more than three hours before tipoff.

Apparently, MVP also stands for Most Valuable Practitioner.

"He's the MVP of the league and he's the most aggressive guy on the court," Smith said. "We can't stop him individually. We've got to do a collective effort on him, and I felt we didn't help each other out."

NBA scoreboard

Playoffs

FIRST ROUND (Best-of-seven)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Cleveland 4, Detroit 0

Cleveland 102, Detroit 84

Cleveland 94, Detroit 82

Cleveland 79, Detroit 68

Cleveland 100, Detroit 78

Boston 4, Chicago 3

Chicago 105, Boston 103, OT

Boston 118, Chicago 115

Boston 107, Chicago 86

Chicago 121, Boston 118, 2OT

Boston 106, Chicago 104, OT

Chicago 128, Boston 127, 3OT

Boston 109, Chicago 93

Orlando 4, Philadelphia 2

Philadelphia 100, Orlando 98

Orlando 96, Philadelphia 87

Philadelphia 96, Orlando 94

Orlando 84, Philadelphia 81

Orlando 91, Philadelphia 78

Orlando 114, Philadelphia 89

Atlanta 4, Miami 3

Atlanta 90, Miami 64

Miami 108, Atlanta 93

Miami 107, Atlanta 78

Atlanta 81, Miami 71

Atlanta 106, Miami 91

Miami 98, Atlanta 72

Atlanta 91, Miami 78

WESTERN CONFERENCE

L.A. Lakers 4, Utah 1

L.A. Lakers 113, Utah 100

L.A. Lakers 119, Utah 109

Utah 88, L.A. Lakers 86

L.A. Lakers 108, Utah 94

L.A. Lakers 107, Utah 96

Denver 4, New Orleans 1

Denver 113, New Orleans 84

Denver 108, New Orleans 93

New Orleans 95, Denver 93

Denver 107, New Orleans 63

Denver 107, New Orleans 86

Dallas 4, San Antonio 1

Dallas 105, San Antonio 98

San Antonio 105, Dallas 84

Dallas 88, San Antonio 67

Dallas 99, San Antonio 90

Dallas 106, San Antonio 93

Houston 4, Portland 2

Houston 105, Portland 81

Portland 107, Houston 103

Houston 86, Portland 83

Houston 89, Portland 88

Portland 88, Houston 77

Houston 92, Portland 76

Houston 4, Portland 2

Houston 105, Portland 81

Portland 107, Houston 103

Houston 86, Portland 83

Portland 88, Houston 77

Houston 92, Portland 76

CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS (Best-of-seven)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Tuesday: Cleveland 99, Atlanta 72

Cleveland leads series 1-0

Thursday: Atlanta at Cleveland

Saturday: Cleveland at Atlanta

Monday: Cleveland at Atlanta

Wednesday: Atlanta at Cleveland*

Friday, May 15: Cleveland at Atlanta*

Monday, May 18: Atlanta at Cleveland*

Boston vs. Orlando

Monday: Orlando 95, Boston 90,

Orlando leads series 1-0

Wednesday: Orlando at Boston

Friday: Boston at Orlando

Sunday: Boston at Orlando*

Tuesday, May 12: Orlando at Boston*

Thursday, May 14: Boston at Orlando*

Sunday, May 17: Orlando at Boston*

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Monday: Houston vs. L.A. Lakers

Monday: Houston 100, L.A. Lakers 92,

Houston leads series 1-0

Wednesday: Houston at L.A. Lakers

Friday: L.A. Lakers at Houston

Sunday: L.A. Lakers at Houston

Tuesday, May 12: Houston at L.A. Lakers*

Thursday, May 14: L.A. Lakers at Houston*

Sunday, May 17: Houston at L.A. Lakers*

Denver vs. Dallas

Sunday: Denver 109, Dallas 95

Tuesday: Denver 117, Dallas 105, Denver

leads series 2-0

Saturday: Denver at Dallas

Monday: Denver at Dallas

Wednesday: Dallas at Denver*

Friday, May 15: Denver at Dallas*

Sunday, May 17: Dallas at Denver*

*if necessary

Tuesday

Cavaliers 99, Hawks 72

ATLANTA — Evans 2-6 1-2 6, Jos. Smith 8-10 0-0

15-10 22, Horford 2-4 0-0 4, Bibby 7-10 0-0

19, Johnson 5-10 0-0 11, M. Williams 0-2 1-2

1, Pachulia 2-5 0-0 4, Murray 2-9 1-2 5, Law

0 1-0 0-0, Jones 0-0 0-0 0, M. West 0-2 0-0

Totals 28-64 9-18 72.

CLEVELAND — James 12-20 8-9 34,

Varejao 2-8 0-0 4, Ilgauskas 2-9 3-5 7, M.

Williams 7-12 3-4 21, D. West 5-11 2-2 13, J.

Smith 4-0 2-0 4, Gibson 2-3 0-0 4, Wallace 1-

10-0-2, Szczerbiak 2-4 0-0 5, Pavlovic 3-5 1-2

7, Jackson 0-1 0-0 0, Kinsey 1-1 0-0 2. Totals

37-79 17-24 99.

Atlanta 21 23 17 11 — 72

Cleveland 25 24 28 22 — 99

Three-Point Goals—Atlanta 7-18 (Bibby

5-7, Evans 1-2, Johnson 1-3, Murray 0-6),

Cleveland 8-20 (M. Williams 4-8, James

2-6, Szczerbiak 1-2, D. West 1-2, Gibson 0-

1, Ilgauskas 0-1). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Atlanta 44 (Horford 8), Cleveland 50 (James 10). Assists—Atlanta 19 (Bibby

8), Cleveland 16 (D. West 9). Total Fouls—Atlan-

ta 21, Cleveland 16. A—20,562 (20,562).

Nuggets 117, Mavericks 105

DALLAS — Howard 0-3 0-0 0, Nowitzki

11-20 12-13 35, Dampier 2-4 0-1 4, Kidd 1-6

1-2 4, Wright 3-5 3-2 10, Terry 7-18 4-6 21,

Singleton 2-5 0-0 5, Barea 2-5 1-2 5, Hollins

4-4 0-0 8, Bass 4-6 0-0 8, Carroll 0-0 0-0, Green

1-2 2-2 5. Totals 37-78 23-30 105.

DENVER — Anthony 8-21 8-9 25, Martin

4-4 18, Jones 0-3 0-2 0, Andersen 4-5 0-8,

Smith 6-10 6-7 21, Kleiza 2-4 0-0 4, Carter 2-

4-0 0-4, Petro 0-0 0-0, Hart 0-0 0-0, Balkin

0-0 0-0 0. Totals 39-71 31-40 117.

Dallas 22 33 28 22 —105

Denver 30 28 28 31 —117

Three-Point Goals—Dallas 8-23 (Terry

3-8, Nowitzki 1-2, Singleton 1-2, Green 1-

2, Wright 3-5 3-2 1, Kidd 0-1, Kleiza 0-1, Carter 2-

0-0 0-0 0. Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Dallas 48 (Nowitzki 9), Denver 48 (Andersen 9). Assists—Dallas 28 (Kidd 7), Denver 28 (Billups 8).

Total Fouls—Dallas 28, Denver 20. Technicals—Dallas coach Carlisle, Hollins, Martin. A—19,890 (19,155).

Calendar

May 19 — Draft lottery.

On The Fringe

Tiger is back, but with less power off the tee

By DOUG FERGUSON
The Associated Press

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. — So much about Tiger Woods after major knee surgery looks the same.

He won at Bay Hill with a birdie putt on the last hole that everyone knew he was going to make. Even when his swing was out of sorts last week at Quail Hollow, he somehow was in the thick of contention until the final two holes.

But this is not the same Tiger Woods.

He is missing his power, whether it's off the tee with a driver or from the fairway with irons that are sometimes two more clubs than what he used before surgery last June to rebuild his left knee.

The power shortage was never more evident than in the final round of the Masters, playing with Phil Mickelson, when Woods usually was the first to hit from the fairway. Even his rival couldn't help but notice.

"I kept having to wait for him to hit," Mickelson jokingly said Tuesday.

That wasn't the case the last time they played together at Augusta National, the final round in 2001, when on some holes Woods hit it farther with a 3-wood than Mickelson did with a driver.

More evidence came last week at Quail Hollow.

By measuring drives on the 56 holes that were not par 3s, Mickelson's average tee shot was nearly 14 yards longer than Woods'. Statistics can be misleading, especially over the first two rounds because they played on opposite ends of the draw. But in the third round, when they were separated by one group, Mickelson was longer off the tee on 11 of the 14 driving holes. Lefty's average drive was 317.6 yards, Woods was at 300.5 yards.

Woods has an answer for his sudden loss of length.

"I've been away from the game for a long time," he said Tuesday, referring to his eight-month layoff after the U.S. Open. "And it's going to take a little bit of time before my body gets back to where I can hit the ball the same distances. I don't hit the ball the same distance with my irons or my driver."

What he doesn't have an answer for is when he will get it back.

"Hopefully, soon," he said.

Woods said at Quail Hollow that he was just starting to get some "pop" back in the swing. He spoke about the rotation required to generate speed in his swing, and the importance of not stretching the ligament.

He noticed the difference his first tour-



GERRY BROOME/AP

Tiger Woods, who is coming back from an eight-month layoff after surgery on his left knee, was consistently outrun by playing partner Phil Mickelson in the final round of the Masters, a drastic change from when they were paired at Augusta in 2001.

nement back in Arizona.

"I just didn't have the pop in my body, nor should I," he said. "It takes time for anyone who has a reconstruction (of the ACL) to come back and get the speed back and the agility and all those different things. Most athletes take over a year to get back. With my sport, I've been able to get back sooner than that, just because of the nature of my sport."

Distance is not an issue in The Players Championship, where the TPC Sawgrass is only 7,215 yards. Like most property in Florida, it's all about location. Even so, Woods bristled at the suggestion from NBC Sports analyst Johnny Miller that he would be better off using a 3-wood to navigate the Stadium Course.

Remember, he used only one driver in winning the British Open at Royal Liverpool in 2006. Then again, the links course was dry and brown, and the only water on the course was in bottles for drinking.

"We've got par 5s out here. You've got

to be able to use it," Woods said. "If Johnny says you can't hit drivers on 9 and 11, you're giving up two opportunities to get close to the green."

The last guy to leave a driver out of his bag was Mickelson last summer in the U.S. Open, when he played the first two days with Woods. Before that, the last time they were paired together was in the Deutsche Bank Championship, where Mickelson beat him in the final round.

Asked about Augusta last month, Mickelson didn't notice anything out of the ordinary — except that Woods was first to hit.

"It seemed like he was playing like he normally did," Lefty said. "It seems like he has as much speed as he wants to have. With that being said, I've been able to increase my speed a little bit this year, as well. And even though I've weakened my irons a degree or two, I'm still hitting them 5, 6 yards longer than I did last year. So I've almost gained 10, 12 yards with my irons without trying."

Is Tiger shorter? Or is Phil longer?

Mickelson has always been more infatuated with length than Woods, although Woods' aura has been built around power.

Woods is having to make do with less at the moment, which is OK with him. He has been experimenting with different shafts and lengths of his driver, although he keeps going back to what he had.

The Players Championship will be the fourth straight tournament that Mickelson has a chance to replace Woods at No. 1 in the world ranking. Lefty would have to win and have Woods finish worse than fourth place alone for that to happen.

Is change imminent? Geoff Ogilvy isn't so sure.

"Every time that there's been this talk about, 'He's vulnerable,' and 'He's not where he was,' he goes and wins eight of the next 12 tournaments," Ogilvy said. "So I don't think anyone out here is concerned that Tiger is not going to be Tiger anymore."

PGA Tour to promote its players' charitable contributions

The Associated Press

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. — The PGA Tour and its tournaments have raised over \$1.4 billion for charity over the last 70 years. David Toms wonders how high the figure would be if the tour counted what the players do by themselves.

The figure doesn't include the \$35 million the Tiger Woods Foundation has contributed through grants and scholarships.

It does not include Phil Mickelson serving 5,000 students from 90 elementary schools in San Diego County through a "Start Smart" education program, or his "Birdies for the Brave" program of donating \$100 for every birdie and \$500 for every eagle since 2004.

Toms has given more than \$3 million in

the past six years, starting with his efforts following Hurricane Katrina when at one point, he distributed 5,000 gift cards worth \$100 each to help displaced victims take care of immediate needs.

"You'll hear more and more stories about what guys are doing on their own," Toms said. "We're on our way to our second billion dollars for the PGA Tour. But if you combined everything that the players do on their own, there's no telling what that number is."

The tour wants to do a better job telling that story.

PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem announced plans Tuesday to highlight what golfers do for charity, and get more tournaments, sponsors, volunteers and fans more involved so the tour can do even more.

The campaign is called "Together, anything's possible," and it will be launched for the 2010 season.

Part of it will involve bringing together the tournaments, sponsors and the 2,000 charities involved with the tour so they can learn from one another what works best in raising money.

The more visible part will be letting fans know what the players are doing. Finchem said the tour's Web site would enable fans to see what charities a player supports so they can get involved — either by donating to the charity of their favorite player, or finding which players support a particular cause.

"I think it's important for the tour to get out the word on the charitable impact the tour has in each community," Mick-

elson said. "We've been getting an unfair rap, if you will, in Congress about some of the dollars being spent for entertainment, spent for sponsorship of these events. And yet, we're doing a lot more than just entertaining clients here. We're helping the community."

"We have a whole different business model structure than any sport," he said. "I think that message needs to get out."

Finchem said the campaign had nothing to do with criticism earlier this year from Rep. Barney Frank and Sen. John Kerry over title sponsorship of golf tournaments.

"This comes on the heels of several years of thinking through how we can elevate what we're doing," Finchem said.

Sports briefs

Penguins mistakenly inform fans they won tickets

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Hundreds of Pittsburgh Penguins fans got text messages saying they had won four tickets to an upcoming play-off game, but were disappointed to learn the messages had been sent in error.

Team spokesman Tom McMillan says the message was mistakenly sent to 460 fans who entered a recent contest before a game.

Each of the fans already received an automated phone call, explaining the mistake. Team employees also are personally calling the affected fans.

Every fan who got the mixed-up message will receive a gift package including a \$25 gift card, a Penguins cap and T-shirt, and two tickets to a regular season game next season.

Bettman skeptical of CEO's offer for Coyotes

NEW YORK — NHL commissioner Gary Bettman is skeptical of Jim Balsillie's offer to buy the Phoenix Coyotes, saying he isn't sure the BlackBerry boss could gain approval of league owners.

The NHL stripped current Coyotes owner Jerry Moyes of the authority to run the club Tuesday after Moyes announced the team had filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. Balsillie announced a plan to buy the financially troubled team and move it to Canada, where they were the Winnipeg Jets before moving to Phoenix for the 1996-97 season.

"I don't know whether or not he could get approved," Bettman said Wednesday during a discussion of commissioners from the four major U.S. pro sports leagues, sponsored by The Wall Street Journal. "That's, as I said, something I don't get a vote on. If in fact it becomes an issue for board consideration, the board of governors of the league will make that decision."

Balsillie, co-CEO of BlackBerry maker Research In Motion, said his \$212.5 million offer is conditional on the Coyotes relocating to Canada.

Armstrong's Astana team in financial crisis

VERONA, Italy — Lance Armstrong's Astana team is in the midst of a financial crisis on the eve of the American's first Giro d'Italia.

Astana spokesman Philippe Maertens confirmed reports out of Kazakhstan that the team has not been paying its riders lately.

"There are some financial problems," Maertens told The Associated Press on Wednesday, while adding that the team will still start the Giro on Saturday in Venice.

"Of course. Why not? I don't see any problem. The team is not going to default," Maertens said. "There is only a delay of payment."

Pro Tour teams such as Astana must meet financial parameters to stay active, or risk losing their International Cycling Union (UCI) license.



JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

Atlanta Hawks center Al Horford was held out of practice Wednesday because of a tender ankle, and will be a game-time decision for Game 2 of the Eastern Conference semifinal against the Cleveland Cavaliers on Thursday.

Armstrong is unaffected by the problem because he agreed in September to ride for free for the first year of his comeback to professional cycling after 3½ years of retirement. The seven-time Tour de France winner is planning to support Astana teammate Levi Leipheimer in his bid to win the Giro.

Tony Dungy meets with Michael Vick in prison

Michael Vick and Tony Dungy met Tuesday at the federal penitentiary in Leavenworth, Kan., where the former star quarterback is imprisoned.

"It was a private meeting between Mike and coach Dungy and a positive meeting," said Vick's agent, Joel Segal.

Vick is serving a 23-month sentence for bankrolling a dog-fighting conspiracy. He is to be transferred May 21 to home confinement in Hampton, Va. Vick is to stay in Hampton through July 31. He'll work a \$10-an-hour construction job as part of his sentence.

Engineer distances himself from Cowboys' facility

DALLAS — An engineer said he had limited involvement with the Dallas Cowboys' training facility that collapsed during a thunderstorm and left a team employee paralyzed.

"I was there just a few months," said Enrique Tabak in a story published online by The Dallas Morning News. "They brought me in to build little farm buildings — sheds, agricultural applications."

Tabak formerly worked for the company — Summit Structures LLC of Allentown, Pa. — that the Cowboys hired in 2003 to build

the indoor practice facility. He was listed as the engineer responsible for its design and that of a Philadelphia building that collapsed earlier that same year. A Pennsylvania court ruled in 2006 that Summit was negligent in the design and construction of the membrane-covered building.

Tabak is now employed by a different company in Canada.

Twelve people were hurt Saturday. The most seriously injured was Rich Behm, the team's 33-year-old scouting assistant who was permanently paralyzed from the waist down after his spine was severed. The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration is investigating.

Lions sign LB Foote

ALLEN PARK, Mich. — Linebacker Larry Foote signed a one-year deal with his hometown Detroit Lions, two days after being released by the Super Bowl champion Pittsburgh Steelers.

The Lions, winless last season, announced Foote's signing Wednesday afternoon.

The Steelers released Foote on Monday, a move expected because he asked to be traded or cut. He started every game for them the past five seasons, including their Super Bowl victories last season and after the 2005 season, but was unhappy coming off the field on passing downs.

Bengals terminate contract of tackle Levi Jones

CINCINNATI — The Cincinnati Bengals parted ways with Levi Jones, terminating the contract of their starting offensive tackle and former first-round pick.

The move Wednesday was expected. He has been bothered by knee and leg problems in recent years.

Cincinnati took tackle Andre Smith of Alabama with the sixth overall pick in last month's draft. Jones' agent, Ken Zuckerman, had said the Bengals told him in March they planned to trade or release him.

The Bengals selected Jones 10th overall in 2002. He played in 94 games for Cincinnati, missing the final six games last season because of an injury.

Mark Martin to drive full Sprint Cup schedule in 2010

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Mark Martin will drive a full Sprint Cup schedule for Hendrick Motorsports in 2010.

Martin, 50, signed a two-year contract with Hendrick last summer, but the second year originally was to be a partial schedule. It will be Martin's 22nd full season at NASCAR's top level.

He will keep his seat in the No. 5 Chevrolet. Martin drove that car to a victory at Phoenix last month that made him the third oldest NASCAR winner in history.

Riley: Contract talks with Wade have begun

MIAMI — Pat Riley's plan to make the Miami Heat better in 2010 might start with signing Dwyane Wade in 2009.

The Heat president said

Wednesday that the team has broached the topic of getting Wade to extend his contract this summer, instead of waiting for the potentially blockbuster-filled offseason.

Riley called Wade's future in Miami "absolutely" the top priority for the Heat right now.

"We would love to get a commitment," Riley said. "I mean, he's our franchise player. We've spent seven years together. We won a world championship with him. We love him to death. He's irreplaceable. ... But we also understand that he has the right to wait."

Wade is among several All-Stars who could be free agents next year.

Wisniewski to remain in hospital another day

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Anaheim Ducks defenseman James Wisniewski will remain in an Orange County hospital for a second night after getting hit in the chest by a puck but is expected to be released Thursday morning.

Wisniewski was hit in the chest by Pavel Datsyuk's slap shot during the second period of Tuesday's playoff game against Detroit. He continued to skate but ultimately fell to his hands and knees while coughing blood as play stopped.

After several minutes Wisniewski was taken to a hospital where it was determined he has a bruised lung. As a standard medical precaution, Wisniewski will continue to be evaluated overnight.

Hawks' Horford rests ankle

CLEVELAND — Atlanta Hawks starting center Al Horford was held out of practice because of a tender ankle and is a game-time decision for Thursday's Game 2 against the Cleveland Cavaliers.

Horford, who sprained his right ankle in Game 5 of Atlanta's opening-round series against Miami, played 25 minutes in the Hawks' 99-72 loss on Tuesday in the series opener. At practice Wednesday, Hawks coach Mike Woodson said Horford was feeling "some fatigue" in his ankle.

Preakness field stands at 9, but could continue to grow

BALTIMORE — There will be no shortage of challengers when Kentucky Derby winner Mine That Bird tries to win the Preakness Stakes.

The field for the second leg of the Triple Crown grew to nine with Musket Man, General Quarters and Terrain the latest confirmed starters for next Saturday's race.

Musket Man was third in the Derby and General Quarters was 10th. Terrain was fourth behind winner General Quarters in the Blue Grass on April 11 in his last start.

The trio join Mine That Bird, Papa Clem, Flying Private, Big Drama, unbeaten Hull and Take the Points. Papa Clem was fourth in the Derby and Flying Private was last of 19. The others are newcomers to the Triple Crown trail.

Derby runner-up Pioneerof the

Nile remains a possible starter. Other 3-year-olds under consideration are Friesian Fire, Conservative, Sky Gate and Tone It Down, who finished third in last Saturday's Tesio Stakes at Pimlico.

The Preakness is limited to 14 starters.

Nuggets coach Karl calls Martin fine 'crazy'

DENVER — Nuggets coach George Karl calls the NBA's \$25,000 fine given to Kenyon Martin "way out of line and crazy."

Martin was penalized Monday, a day after knocking Dallas forward Dirk Nowitzki to the court in Denver's second-round, series-opening victory.

"I'm going to repeat, I think it's wrong and Kenyon didn't deserve a \$25,000 fine," Karl said after his team's shootaround for Game 2 on Tuesday night.

Karl said he watched replays of the foul 10 times Monday night, coming away even more perplexed by the fine.

"I saw some hits in Chicago-Boston, some hits in Atlanta-Miami — this is not on top of the list from my observation," he said. "It's amazing to me."

The league declined to comment on Karl's remarks.

Cowboys K Folk has surgery

IRVING, Texas — Dallas Cowboys kicker Nick Folk is recovering from surgery to repair a torn cartilage in his hip.

The Cowboys said Wednesday that Folk, a Pro Bowl selection as a rookie in 2007, should resume light kicking in about eight weeks. They're hopeful he can handle full kicking in 12 weeks, around the start of training camp.

The Cowboys picked USC kicker David Buehler in the fifth round of the draft last month.

Folk had surgery Tuesday in Colorado to repair a right hip labral tear, which can be caused by repetitive motions like kicking. He didn't miss a game the past two seasons.

Folk has the best field goal accuracy rate among active kickers, making 46 of 53 field goals (86.8 percent) in his career.

Man accused of robbing NBA's Walker gets 21 years

CHICAGO — A man has been sentenced to 21 years in prison for robbing NBA star Antoine Walker at gunpoint at his Chicago home.

Antoine Larkins, 30, pleaded guilty Tuesday to home invasion charges. He and three others were initially charged with armed robbery, aggravated kidnapping and home invasion.

Authorities said Walker was pulling into his garage on July 9, 2007, when several armed men ambushed him, forced him and an assistant inside his home and took a car, cash and jewelry.

One suspect, Gregory Reed-fields, 24, has been sentenced to four years in prison.

The other two, Phillip Allison, 30, and Demorris Hill, 27, are also accused of robbing the home of Knicks player Eddy Curry in 2007. Their cases are pending.

AL roundup

Bay, Boston continue pounding the Yankees

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Jason Bay and the Boston Red Sox have beaten up on the Yankees in almost every way imaginable this season.

Slugfests, pitching duels, late comebacks. In the rain and under the sun. At old Fenway Park and new Yankee Stadium.

Five games, five wins for the Red Sox.

What happened to baseball's best rivalry?

"At this point in the season, they are a better team than us," New York outfielder Johnny Damon said.

The latest example of Boston's superiority was a 7-3 victory Tuesday night. Bay hit a three-run homer in a four-run first inning against Joba Chamberlain, and the Red Sox squished the Yankees 7-3 for a soggy two-game sweep in their first trip to the \$1.5 billion ballpark.

"On kind of a miserable night out there, we go home feeling good about ourselves," Red Sox manager Terry Francona said.

Josh Beckett (3-2) helped Boston improve to 5-0 against New York for the first time since 1985. The Red Sox have outscored the Yankees 38-23.

In 1923, the Red Sox lost their first five games at the original Yankee Stadium. New York is 6-5 overall at its new home after three straight losses.

"It's not any fun, that's for sure. It's frustrating," Yankees manager Joe Girardi said. "It's not the way you want to start the season, but it's where we are. We've got to do something about it."

The next time the teams meet is June 9-11 at Fenway Park.

Chamberlain (1-1) allowed hits to his first five batters, then recovered to strike out a career-high 12 in 5 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings.

"I think that the positive part is after the first inning, he shut down a pretty good lineup. I think that's the positive part of tonight, for Joba," Girardi said. "Positives don't get you wins, though. Yeah, you want to look at the good things and build on the good things, but you have to be ready to go."

Beckett bounced back from two poor outings and allowed his only runs on Damon's three-run homer in the third. He gave up 10 hits in six-plus innings.



JULIE JACOBSON/AP

Boston's David Ortiz, rear, greets Jason Bay at the plate after Bay hit a three-run home run against New York in the first inning Tuesday at Yankee Stadium. Bay is 10-for-18 with three homers and 10 RBIs against the Yankees this season.

"Some laboring times, but I made pitch-es when I had to," Beckett said.

Chamberlain became the fifth pitcher since 1900 to strike out 12 in 5 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings or less. The previous one was Philadelphia's Cole Hamels in 5 $\frac{1}{3}$ innings against Atlanta on July 24, 2006, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

"I felt really good in the bullpen. Sometimes it doesn't translate right away," Chamberlain said.

Bay is 10-for-18 (.556) with three homers and 10 RBIs against the Yankees this season.

Tigers 9, Twins 0: At Detroit, Miguel Cabrera hit a two-run homer, Clete Thomas had three hits in his season debut and rookie Rick Porcello threw seven scoreless innings.

Thomas had a triple, double, single and

walk — driving in two runs — and Josh Anderson had two hits and an RBI. Cabrera went 3-for-4 with four RBIs.

Porcello (2-3) gave up four hits and lasted seven innings.

Nick Blackburn (2-2) gave up a career-high nine runs — six earned — eight hits and three walks in 3 $\frac{1}{3}$ innings.

Rays 6, Orioles 3: At St. Petersburg, Fla., Matt Garza pitched eight strong innings and major league RBI leader Evan Longoria (34) drove in three runs.

Garza (3-2) allowed three runs and four hits and improved to 6-0 lifetime against the Orioles.

Brian Roberts and Gregg Zaun homered for Baltimore.

Rangers 7, Mariners 2 (10): At Seattle, Jarrod Saltalamacchia hit a grand slam that capped a six-run burst with two outs in

the 10th and Texas won its fourth straight.

Marlon Byrd and Nelson Cruz had RBI singles before Saltalamacchia hit his second career slam.

Texas starter Vicente Padilla allowed one hit and one unearned run in eight innings. Darren O'Day (1-0) and Frank Francisco finished.

Angels 5, Athletics 3: At Oakland, Calif., Gary Matthews Jr. drove in three runs and Shane Loux won his second straight start after a 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ -year stretch without a major league victory as Los Angeles won for the sixth time in eight games.

Chone Figgins had three hits and drove in two runs for the Angels. Loux (2-2) allowed five hits and one run in seven innings.

Matt Holliday hit a two-run homer in the ninth for the A's, who have lost three straight.

Royals rally for fourth straight victory

By JOHN MARSHALL
The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — An early four-run deficit likely would have been too much for the Kansas City Royals to overcome last year, and probably any other season in the past decade.

This team is wired a little different. They expect to win, refuse to roll over when it gets tough.

John Buck lined a game-winning single with the bases loaded in the 11th inning to help the Royals complete an 8-7 comeback victory over the White Sox on Tuesday night.

"It speaks a lot to their will," Royals manager Trey Hillman said. "They want to keep playing when they get down. I guess it's character, which is great to see. The guys have a taste of it, and they want more."

Nearly everyone contributed to this one.

Mike Jacobs helped chip away at the early deficit with a three-run homer. Alberto Callaspo hit a solo shot and had a run-scoring double to extend his hitting streak to seven games. Billy Butler tied the game at 7-all with a run-scoring single in the seventh. Coco Crisp stole two bases and matched a career-high with four of Kansas City's 11 walks.

Jamey Wright pitched three strong innings of late relief and Juan Cruz (2-0) set up the winning rally by working the 11th.

Mitch Maier set up the rally by walking with one out, then went to third on Willie Bloomquist's hit-and-run single off Lance Broadway (0-1). Callaspo was intentionally walked and Buck lined the next pitch just past third baseman Josh Fields for Kansas City's seventh comeback victory of the season. The first-place Royals have won four straight and six of seven overall.

"One thing we've shown all season is a never-die attitude," said Jacobs, who hit his fifth homer.

Jermaine Dye and Josh Fields returned from hand injuries to homer and Scott Podsednik drove in two runs for Chicago, which had 16 hits. A.J. Pierzynski had four hits and Carlos Quentin three, but the White Sox stranded 13 runners and didn't score after the fifth inning to lose four straight to Kansas City for the first time since 2003.

Chicago has lost four straight overall and is just 12-14 after winning the AL Central last season.

"Some people on this team better check [themselves]," White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen said. "They better think about the way we're playing — I'm talking about everyone. They better be careful. I'm not afraid to move people. I'm not afraid to make changes."

The White Sox staked starter Gavin Floyd to a 4-0 lead in

three innings and he gave it all back, allowing Callaspo's second career homer in the third inning and a three-run, 441-foot shot to Jacobs in the fourth. The right-hander ran into trouble again in the sixth inning, chased after a leadoff walk to Jose Guillen and Butler's single.

Callaspo followed with a run-scoring double off Matt Thornton, who later walked Coco Crisp with the bases loaded to cut the White Sox's lead to 7-6.

Floyd allowed six runs and six hits in his second shaky outing the past three starts.

"Getting ahead of guys is key for me and early on I did that," Floyd said. "I'm frustrated with myself."

Royals starter Kyle Davies wasn't any better, giving up two homers, six runs and eight hits in four innings. Fields led off the third inning with a homer and Dye, back after two games, hit a



CHARLIE RIEDEL/AP

Royals John Buck, right, and David DeJesus celebrate after Buck hit a single to drive in the winning run in the 11th inning against the White Sox on Tuesday.

two-run shot three batters later to put the White Sox up 4-0.

The Royals crept back within one, but Davies gave up another run in the fourth on Carlos Quentin's RBI single and was done after Dye's leadoff single in the fifth.

MLB scoreboard**American League**

East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Toronto	19	10	.655	
Boston	17	10	.630	1
New York	13	13	.500	6
Tampa Bay	12	16	.429	6½
Baltimore	10	17	.370	8

Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Kansas City	16	11	.593	—
Detroit	14	12	.538	1½
Minnesota	13	14	.481	3
Chicago	12	14	.462	3½
Cleveland	10	17	.370	6

West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Seattle	15	12	.556	—
Texas	14	12	.538	½
Los Angeles	12	13	.480	2
Oakland	9	15	.375	4½

Tuesday's games

Toronto 10, Cleveland 6
Tampa Bay 6, Baltimore 3
Texas 7, Seattle, 2, 10 innnings
Boston 7, N.Y. Yankees 3
Detroit 9, Minnesota 0
Kansas City 8, Chicago White Sox 7, 11
innings

L.A. Angels 5, Oakland 3

Wednesday's games

Minnesota at Baltimore

Tampa Bay at N.Y. Yankees

Cleveland at Boston

Seattle at Kansas City

Detroit at Chicago White Sox

Texas at Oakland

Toronto at L.A. Angels

Thursday's games

Seattle (Washburn 3-1) at Kansas City (Bannister 2-0)

Texas (McCarthy 3-0) at Oakland (Cashill 0-2)

Minnesota (Perkins 1-2) at Baltimore

(Bergesen 1-0)

Tampa Bay (Niemann 2-3) at N.Y. Yankees (Pettitte 2-1)

Cleveland (Laffey 2-0) at Boston (Wakefield 3-1)

Detroit (Miner 2-1) at Chicago White Sox (Contreras 0-4)

Toronto (R.Ray 0-0) at L.A. Angels (Jeri. Weaver 2-1)

Friday's games

N.Y. Yankees at Baltimore

Detroit at Cleveland

Tampa Bay at Boston

Seattle at Minnesota

Texas at Chicago White Sox

Toronto at Oakland

Kansas City at L.A. Angels

Tuesday**Red Sox 7, Yankees 3**

Boston

ab	r	h	b1	ab	r	h	b1	
Ellisur	2	1	0	Jeter	ss	5	1	2
VnEvry	cf	1	0	Damon	if	4	1	2
Pedroia	2b	4	2	3	Teixeir	b1	4	0
D.Ortiz	dh	3	1	1	HMatsum	dh	4	0
Bay	lf	3	2	1	Cano	b1	4	0
Lowell	3b	5	1	0	Swisher	rf	3	0
J.Drew	rf	4	1	0	McCarr	cf	4	0
J.Bailey	1b	3	0	R.Pena	3b	4	0	
Varitek	c	3	0	1	JMolin	c	3	1
NGreen	ss	4	0	1	Gardn	ph	1	0
Totals	34	7	8	Totals	36	3	10	3
Boston	400	000	021-7					
New York	003	000	000-3					

E.J.Bailey (1), R.Pena (1), DP—Boston 1, New York 1. LOB—Boston 10, New York 7. 2B—Pedroia (9), Mc.Cabre 2 (2). HR—Bay (7), Damon (6). SB—Ellsbury (15), Bay (4), N.Green (1). SF—Varitek.

IP H R ER BB SO

Boston Beckett W-3-2 6 10 3 3 1 5

Okajima H.4 2 0 0 0 0 1

Saito 1 0 0 0 0 1

New York Chamberlain L-1-1 5½ 6 4 4 2 12

Veras ½ 0 0 0 0 0

Coke ½ 1 0 0 0 0

Albaladejo ½ 2 0 1 0 0

E.Ramirez ½ 0 0 0 0 1

Melancon 0 0 1 1 3 0

D.Robertson 1 0 0 0 0 1

Melancon pitched to 3 batters in the 9th. Beckett pitched to 1 batter in the 7th. HBP—by Albaladejo (J.Bailey), by Chamberlain (Bay). T—3:47. A—46,810 (52,325).

Royals 8, White Sox 7 (11)

Chicago

ab	r	h	b1	ab	r	h	b1	
Getz	2	1	0	Crisp	cf	2	0	1
Fields	3b	6	2	1	DeJesu	r	0	0
Quentin	lf	5	0	3	Teahen	b1	2	2
Thome	dh	3	1	JGuilln	rf	2	2	
Dye	rf	6	2	2	Maier	pr-1	1	2
Konerk	1b	6	1	0	Bartel	b1	4	1
Pryns	c	5	1	4	Bethard	pr-1	2	1
AlRmrz	dh	6	1	1	Jacob	dh	5	1
Pdsdrn	cf	4	0	2	Caspab	2b	1	2
Totals	46	7	16	Totals	42	8	11	8
Chicago	013	120	000	007				
Kansas City	001	302	100	001-8				

Two outs when winning run scored. DP—Chicago 1, Kansas City 2, LOB—Chicago 13, Kansas City 13. 2B—Pierzynski (2), Butler (6), Callaspo (3), 2B—Pierzynski (1). HR—Fields (2), Dye (7), Jacobs (5), Callaspo (2), SB—Quentin (1), Al.Ramirez (6), Crisp (2), Bloomquist (4). SF—Podsednick.

IP H R ER BB SO

Chicago Floyd 5 6 6 6 2 2

Thornton H.4 1 2 1 1 2 2

Dotel BS-1-1 1 1 0 0 2 1

Linebrink 1 0 0 0 0 2 0

Carrasco 2 0 0 0 0 1 1

Broadway L-0-1 ½ 2 1 1 2 1

Kansas City Davies 4 8 6 6 3 2

Tejeda 2 3 1 1 1 3

Mahay 1 2 0 0 0 0 1

J.Wright 3 3 0 0 0 0 3

J.Cruz W-2-0 1 0 0 0 1 2

Davies pitched to 1 batter in the 5th.

Floyd pitched to 2 batters in the 6th.

Thornton pitched to 1 batter in the 7th.

HBP—by Davies (Quentin). WP—Floyd, Davies, J.Wright. T—4:33. A—13,419 (38,177).

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Linebrink 1 0 0 0 0 2 0

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NL roundup

Dodgers tie record with 12th win at home

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — One more victory will give the Los Angeles Dodgers a longer home winning streak from the start of a season than any major league team since 1900.

And the lowly Washington Nationals are coming to town, trying not to be a footnote to history.

Tuesday night's 3-1 victory over the Arizona Diamondbacks gave the Dodgers a share of the record, which the Detroit Tigers set under manager Hughie Jennings by winning their first 12 games at Bennett Park in 1911 — the year before they moved into Tiger Stadium.

"I'm glad it's finally something that happened before I was born," said Dodgers manager Joe Torre, 68.

"It's something to admire when you look back on it and know that there you are. You're in the record books and you were a part of that team that did it."

The Dodgers' longest home winning streak in Los Angeles at any point in a season was 13 games in 1993.

They won 14 in a row at Ebbets Field in 1921.

"To be a part of something like this is really special," winning pitcher Jeff Weaver said.

"I'm just happy for the team about the 12-0 start here. Hopefully we can get 13."

The Dodgers' sixth straight win made them a major league-best 20-8, their best start since the 1983 club started out 21-7 under Tommy Lasorda.

That same year, the Atlanta Braves started out 10-0 at home under Torre.

"I think anytime you put a streak together like this, it's a surprise — that things keep going your way," Torre said.



GUS RUETAS/AP

Los Angeles' Jeff Weaver pitches during the first inning against the Arizona Diamondbacks on Tuesday in Los Angeles. Weaver helped the Dodgers earn their record-tying 12th straight win at home.

"But the thing that doesn't surprise me is that we've been going out there every day and grinding it as a team."

"Baseball's full of streaks. You just hope the good ones outnumber the bad ones," he added. "I just don't want this to stop. And it's not about the streak. It's just about winning ballgames and putting them on the right side of the ledger. These games count every

but as much as the ones later on."

The Dodgers have the same overall record Arizona had after 28 games last season, when the Diamondbacks held first place in the NL West and led Los Angeles by 5½ games.

Torre and Co. ended up winning the division title by two games.

Weaver (1-0) allowed a run and five hits over five innings and struck out six in his first start

in the big leagues since Sept. 28, 2007 with the Seattle Mariners. The 10-year veteran right-hander outpitched Max Scherzer (0-3), who is 0-7 through his first 12 big league starts despite a respectable 3.16 ERA.

Padres 2, Rockies 1 (10): At San Diego, Brian Giles doubled in the winning run in the 10th inning and the Padres snapped a six-game losing streak.

Giles' one-out double off Matt Daley (0-1) gave San Diego only its third victory in 15 games.

Giles, who came into the game hitting .153 and was on a 3-for-27 skid, went 2 for 3 with two walks.

Heath Bell (1-0) pitched two scoreless innings for the win.

Brewers 8, Pirates 5: At Pittsburgh, J.J. Hardy drove in four runs and Milwaukee won its 17th straight over the Pirates, the majors' longest winning streak by one team against another in nearly 40 years.

The Pirates haven't beaten the Brewers since May 22, 2008.

Hardy was 3 of 27 before reaching base four times on two run-scoring singles, an RBI double and a walk.

Ian Snell (1-4) gave up five runs and four hits and walked five in five-plus innings.

Reds 7, Marlins 0: At Miami, Brandon Phillips tied a career high with six RBIs and Edinson Volquez allowed three hits in eight innings for Cincinnati.

Nick Masset pitched a perfect ninth to complete the Reds' sixth shutout this season, and their fourth in six games.

Volquez (4-2) extended a personal streak of 16½ consecutive scoreless innings.

Phillips had three hits, including a three-run homer.

Florida's Chris Volstad (2-1) gave up four runs in six innings.

Mets 4, Braves 3: At Atlanta, Livian Hernandez earned his fourth win in 25 career starts against the Braves and New York won two games for their first sweep at Turner Field since 2007.

David Wright and Ramon Castro had run-scoring doubles in the third inning off Kenshin Kawakami (1-4), who lost his fourth straight start.

Carlos Delgado had two hits, including a two-run single in the ninth.

Hernandez (2-1) gave up seven hits and one run in 6½ innings and improved to 4-15 in his career against the Braves.

Phillies 10, Cardinals 7: At St. Louis, Shane Victorino was 4 for 5 with a home run and three RBIs and Jayson Werth had a three-run shot and four RBIs for Philadelphia.

Ryan Ludwick and Yadier Molina hit solo homers in a span of three at-bats before Werth answered with a three-run shot in the fifth off Adam Wainwright.

Albert Pujols hit his 10th homer in the ninth off Brad Lidge.

Brett Myers (2-2) allowed five runs on nine hits in 5½ innings.

Nationals 10, Astros 10 (11 innings, susp.): At Washington, A sloppy matchup between Washington and Houston wound up without a winner when the game was suspended by rain with the score tied at 10 in the bottom of the 11th inning.

Because the Astros aren't scheduled to return to Washington this season, the game will be resumed July 9 in Houston with the Nationals as the home team.

Cristian Guzman hit a two-run homer in the eighth that put the Nationals ahead 10-9.

The Astros tied it in the ninth on Geoff Blum's sacrifice fly.

MLB briefs

Ankiel released from hospital after colliding with wall

The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Just before Rick Ankiel barreled headfirst into the wall, the thought flashed through his mind: My career is finished.

"I thought that might be it," the St. Louis Cardinals' outfielder said Tuesday. "When you don't get a chance to put up your hands to protect yourself, I'm lucky to be walking today. Anything from here is a plus."

Ankiel escaped with only soreness from the harrowing collision after making a running catch at the warning track in the eighth inning Monday. X-rays and a CT scan of Ankiel's head, neck and back revealed no broken bones, although manager Tony La Russa was so concerned he spent the night in the hospital with the center fielder.

Feeling very fortunate he was able to stand at his locker stall and talk to reporters, Ankiel said he "tweaked" his right shoulder and added that his neck and left side, which appeared to take the brunt of the blow, also were the worse for wear. He was released from the hospital earlier Tuesday and was due to be examined by

team physician Dr. George Paletta later in the day.

"I'm just total body sore," Ankiel said. "I was relieved, but I've never gone through that and I don't know what you're supposed to feel and what you're not supposed to feel. I hit it just so hard that all I could imagine was that something's going to be wrong."

The team postponed a decision whether to place him on the 15-day disabled list, depending on how much better he's feeling in a few days.

Ankiel has been with the Cardinals since they drafted him in the second round in 1997 as a phenom left-handed pitcher, and he made the conversion to full-time outfielder in 2007. His badly-dented hat, which reflected the intensity of the collision, was on a shelf in the manager's office.

The team was relieved when Ankiel flashed a thumbs-up sign as he was carted off the field.

Ankiel was running full speed to chase down Pedro Feliz's long drive and couldn't stop himself from crashing. He took a few off-balance steps after making the grab and took the ball out of his glove before

attempting to brace himself with his left arm, deciding he didn't have enough time to execute a slide before stumbling.

Ankiel said he's watched replays of the collision perhaps 35 times and added "It's just like I imagined." He remembered his eyes being open and his head getting twisted upon impact. When he landed on the warning track, flat on his back, he believed he might have broken his neck or back.

"My lower back was really tight and tense, and in between my shoulder blades I felt like somebody was kind of stabbing me," he said. "After that I knew not to move."

A-Rod slides, goes 1-5 with a walk

DUNEDIN, Fla. — Alex Rodriguez slid for the first time since hip surgery, going 1-for-5 with a walk Wednesday in a New York Yankees extended spring game.

The three-time AL MVP says he doesn't know whether he'll rejoin the Yankees on Friday in Baltimore.

He singled up the middle as a designated hitter, and in the third inning, he walked and slid into second on an inning-ending

infield grounder. "The slide was good. No problems. I feel good," he said.

Rodriguez had hip surgery March 9 and the third baseman has been on the disabled list since the start of the season.

New York's extended spring team was scheduled for an intrasquad game Thursday morning, and that could be Rodriguez's final game in Florida if he does rejoin the Yankees for the opener of a weekend series at Baltimore.

Alomar settles lawsuit with ex

NEW YORK — Roberto Alomar and his ex-girlfriend have apparently settled her explosive lawsuit alleging he made her have unprotected sex even though he had AIDS.

Ilya Dall had sued Alomar for \$15 million. Her allegations that he demanded unprotected sex despite Alomar showing signs of HIV were never corroborated. An order from a judge Tuesday says a settlement had been reached.

Alomar spent 17 years in Major League Baseball as one of the game's great second basemen.

SPORTS

Favre set to meet
with Vikings, ESPN
reports, Page 25



NBA PLAYOFFS: CAVS 99, HAWKS 72

LeBron puts on MVP show

■ Points: 34 ■ Rebounds: 10 ■ Assists: three ■ Steals: four



TONY DEJAK/AP

LeBron James shakes off Al Horford's defense and goes up for two of his 34 points during Tuesday's opener of the Eastern Conference semifinal playoff series.

James' defense also plays big role in Cavs' rout of Hawks

INSIDE:

■ The Denver Nuggets, behind another fourth-quarter tear, cruise to a 117-105 victory over the Dallas Mavericks and a 2-0 lead in their Western Conference semifinal playoff series

Page 26



BY TOM WITHERS
The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Alone under his basket, LeBron James braced himself for Atlanta's onslaught.

As two Hawks swooped down on a fast break, James held his ground, stepped in front of Joe Johnson and took the charge.

The only play. The smart play. A game-changing play.

MVP? Indeed.

James dunked the first time he touched

the ball and scored 34 points — 22 in the first half — as the Cavaliers, who waited nine days between playoff games after a first-round sweep, shook off early rust and pulled away for a 99-72 victory over the Hawks in their Eastern Conference semifinal opener Tuesday.

Showing why he was voted the league's best player in a landslide, James added 10 rebounds, three assists and four steals as the top-seeded Cavs won their fifth consecutive lopsided game in a playoff run that has mirrored the best regular season

in franchise history.

James stuffed the stat sheet again, but it was his defensive stop on Johnson in the third quarter that meant as much as anything.

"An MVP taking a charge on the break?" Cavs guard Mo Williams said.

"That's amazing. You get that effort from him, how could I not take a charge? The whole night was about him and he came out and showed why he is the MVP — in the first quarter."

SEE CAVS ON PAGE 26

What rivalry? Red Sox beat up on Yanks again Page 29

